

Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Based Flame Control and Diagnostics

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Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Based Flame Control and Diagnostics
Princeton University

Atmospheric Pressure Plasma Based Flame Control and Diagnostics
Supported by AFOSR MURI

**Fundamental mechanisms, predictive modeling,
and novel aerospace applications of plasma assisted combustion.**



Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Applied Physics Group



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Significant MURI Accomplishments

- Single pulse (10 nsec) quantitative Filtered Rayleigh imaging of temperature fields
- Pulsed microwave control of flames
 - Greater than 20% Flame speed enhancement
 - Coupling efficiency greater than 50%
 - < 10% of the flame power
 - Factor of two reduction in equivalence ratio limit.
- Radar REMPI measurement of NO and radicals in flames.
- Pulsed microwave coupling to laser pre ionization
 - Distributed ignition
- Femtosecond Laser Electronic Excitation Tagging (FLEET) for velocity and temperature profiles

Filtered Rayleigh Scattering

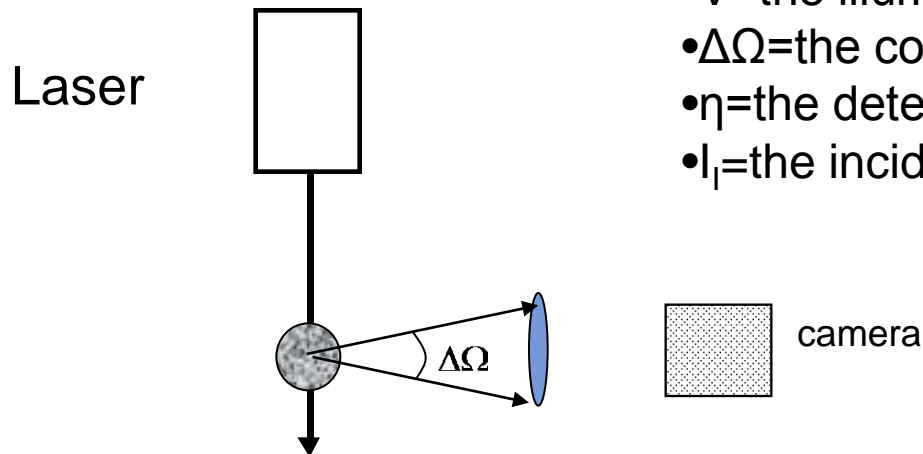
for Quantitative Temperature Imaging
at constant pressure



Rayleigh Signal

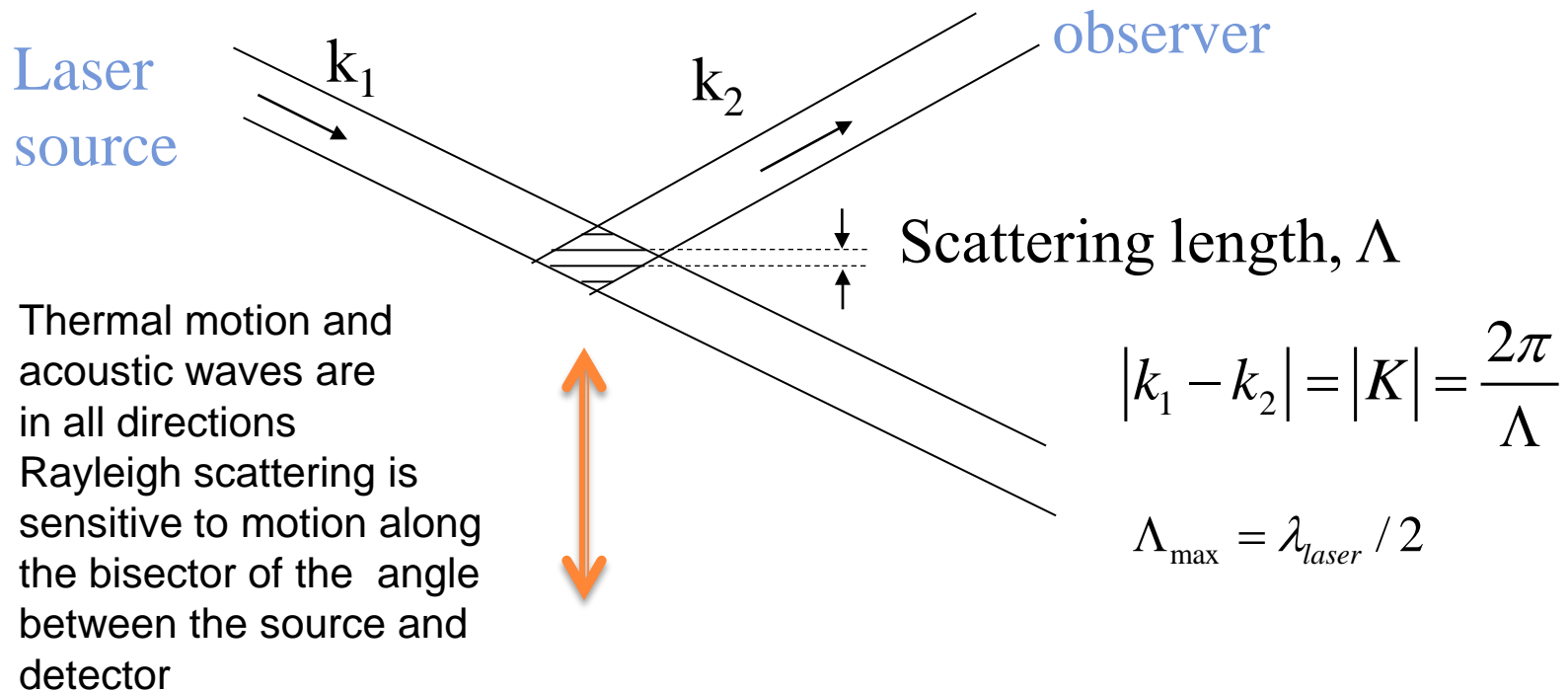
$$P_{DET} = \eta I_I NV \int_{\Delta\Omega} \frac{\partial \sigma_{ss}}{\partial \Omega} d\Omega$$

- N = the number of dipoles per unit volume
- V = the illuminated volume of the sample
- $\Delta\Omega$ = the collection solid angle
- η = the detector and optical system efficiency
- I_I = the incident laser intensity



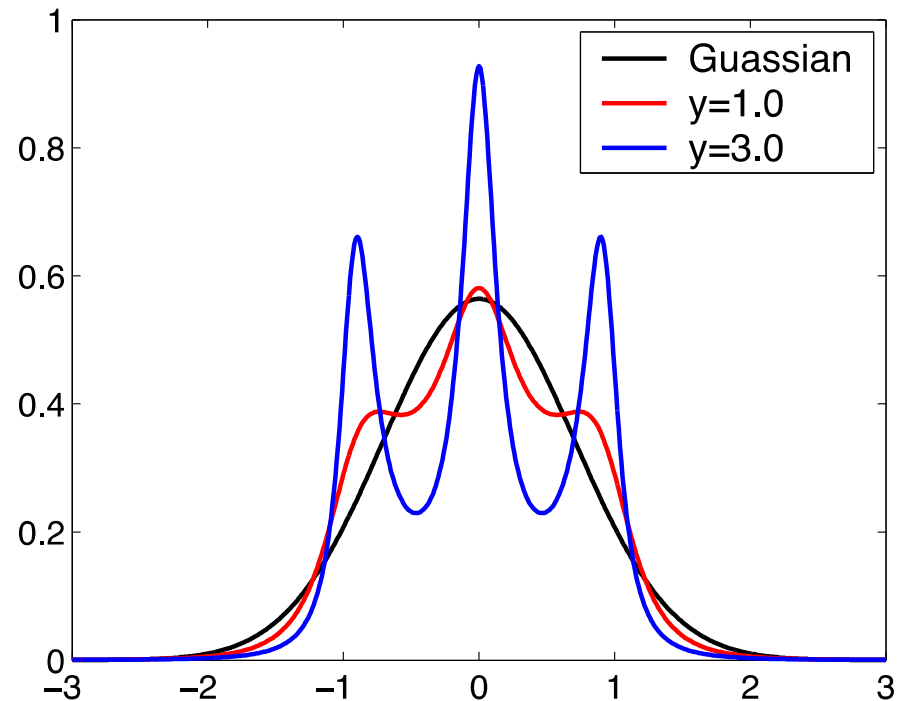
Rayleigh Scattering Interactions leading to line broadening

- $Y = \text{scattering length} / \text{mean free path}$

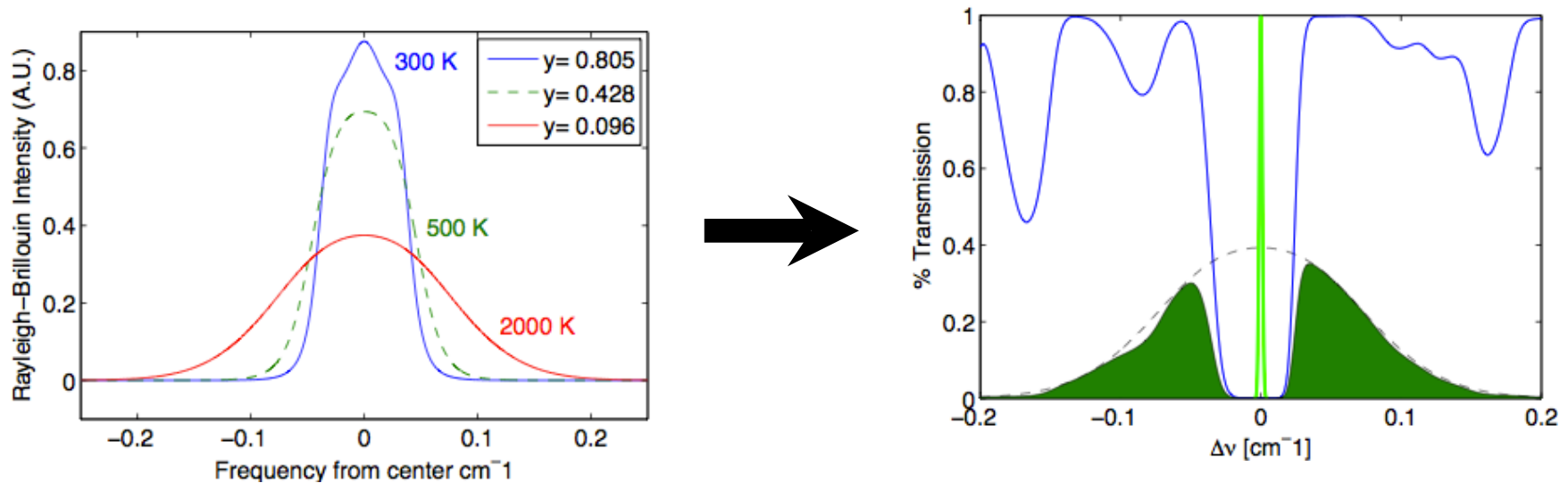


Line Broadening Regimes

- If $Y < 1$, then in the Knudsen Regime – no collective effects. The Rayleigh line is Gaussian in this regime – **low density, high temperature**
- If $Y > 1$, then in the hydrodynamic regime – collective effects dominate - **high density, low temperature**

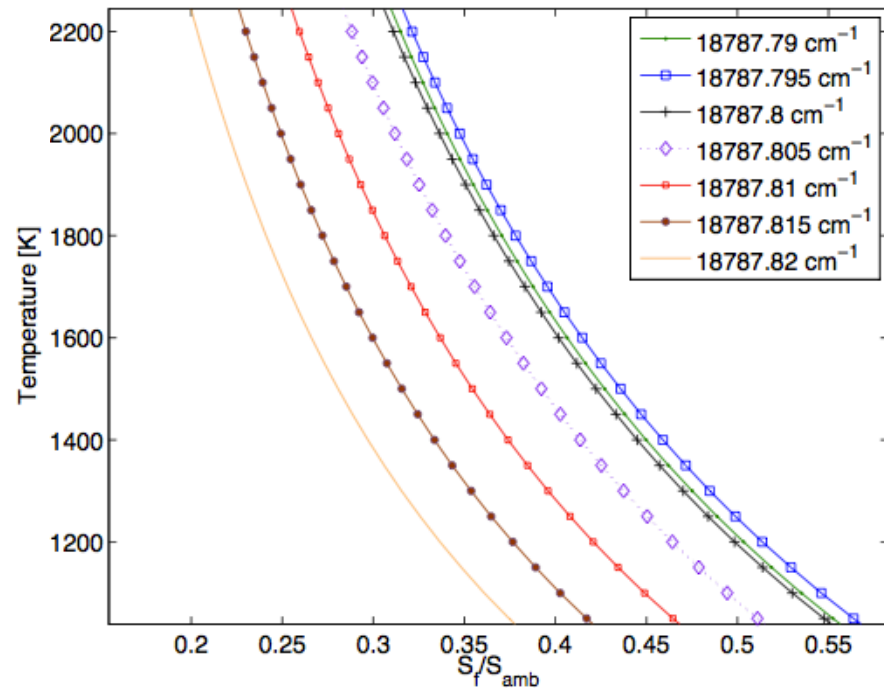
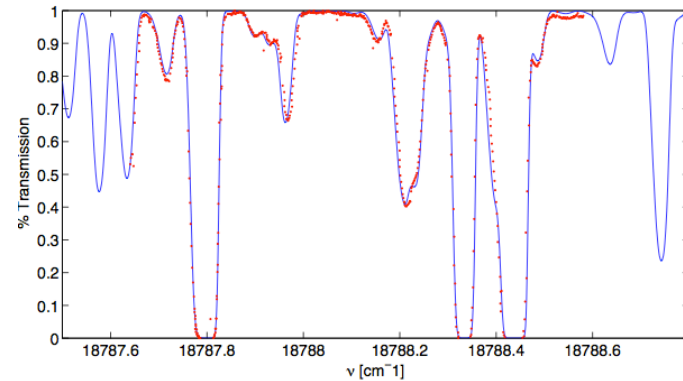
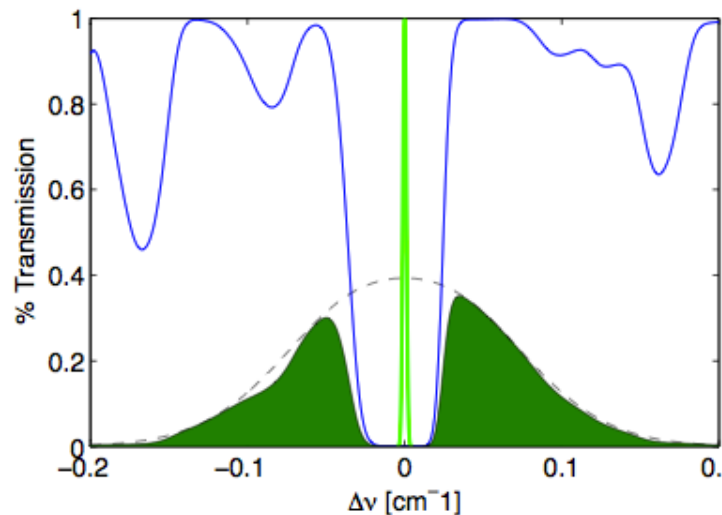
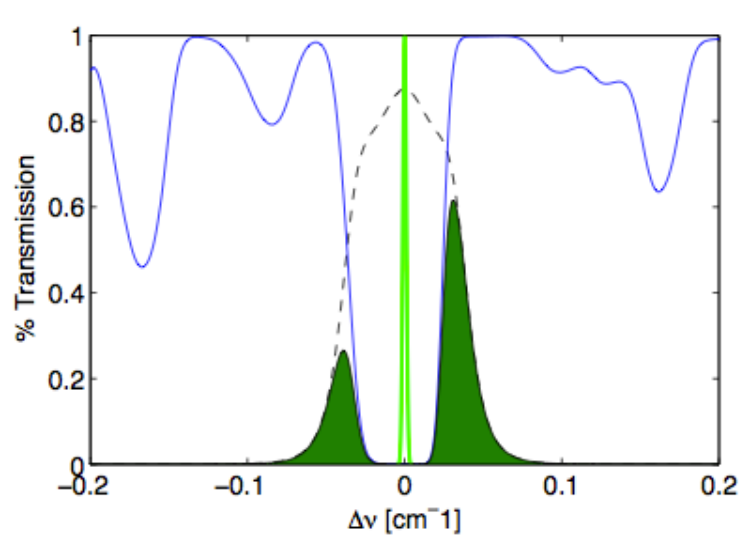


Temperature Imaging by Filtered Rayleigh scattering

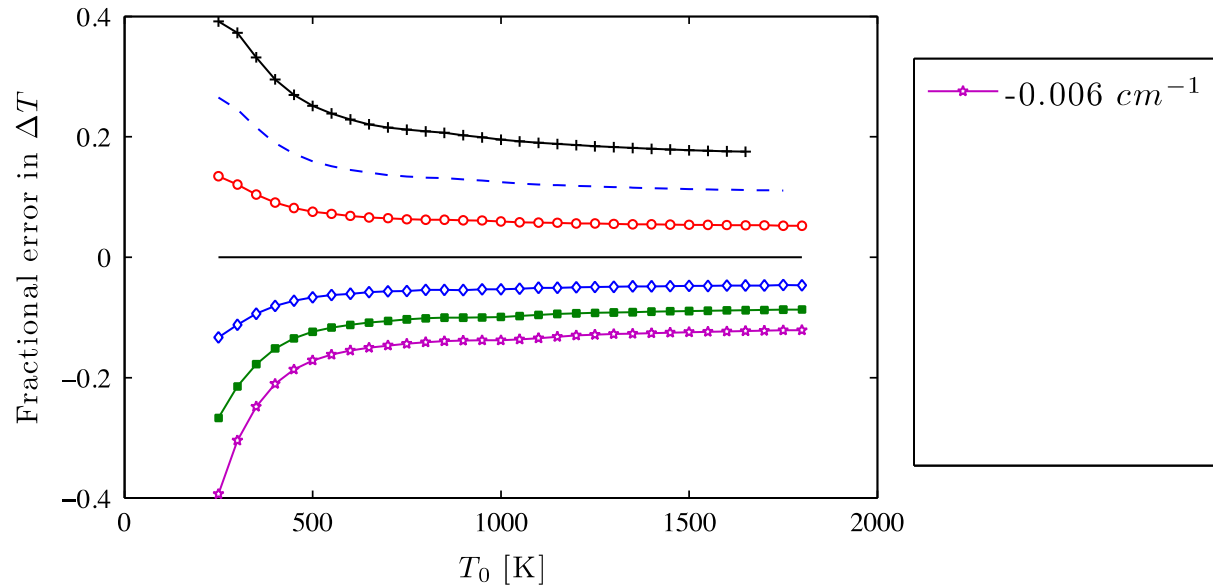


- Modeled Rayleigh-Brillouin Line Broadening (Pan S7)
- Narrow-linewidth molecular iodine filter to block background laser light. Eliminates particle and surface scattering
- Assuming constant pressure (one atmosphere for flame studies) and constant species (nitrogen is a good approximation) the signal coming through the filter is only a function of temperature
- Calibrate using the ratio of the signal from the high temperature to that of air or nitrogen at room temperature (often in the same frame)

FRS sensitivity to laser wavelength



Differential Sensitivity with Temperature

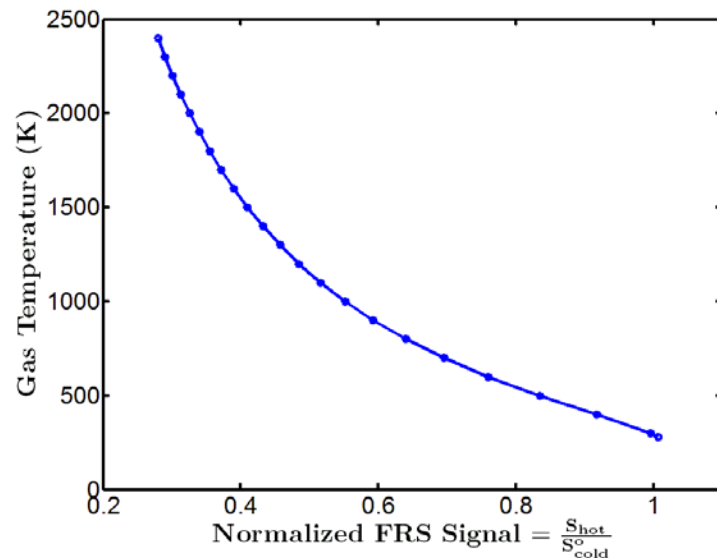


- At high temperature the slopes of the calibration curves are almost identical Leading to robust measurements of temperature differences above $\sim 1000\text{K}$
- Provides a single pulse (10 nsec) image of the temperature field

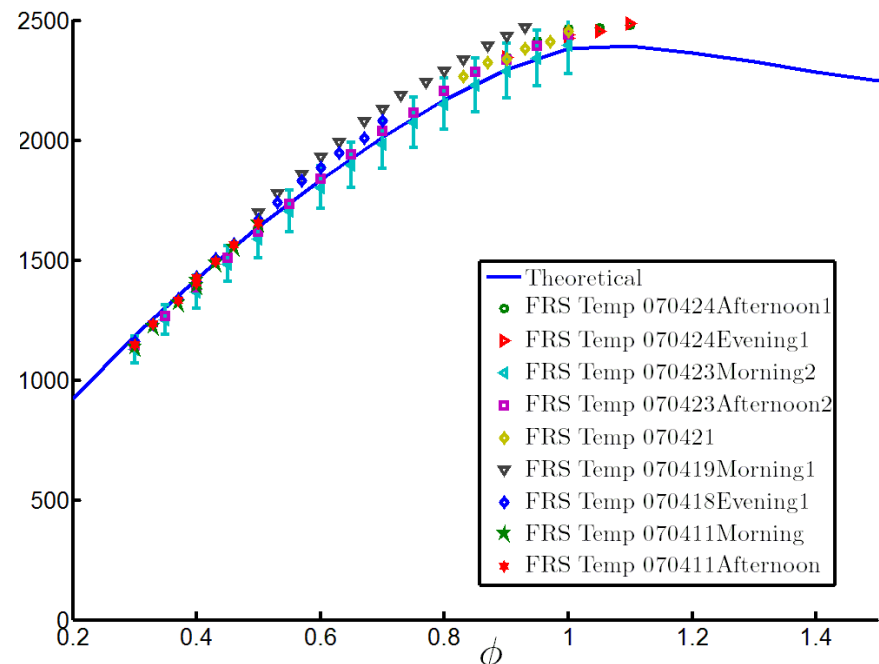
FRS Thermometry Calibration

- Research Technologies RD1x1 Hencken Burner
- With line scattering can obtain Rayleigh signal-to-background > 20:1
- Normalize flame Rayleigh scattering to that of N₂ co-flow
- Accuracy and precision better than 5%

Calibration



H₂/Air Hencken Burner Measurements with averaged FRS



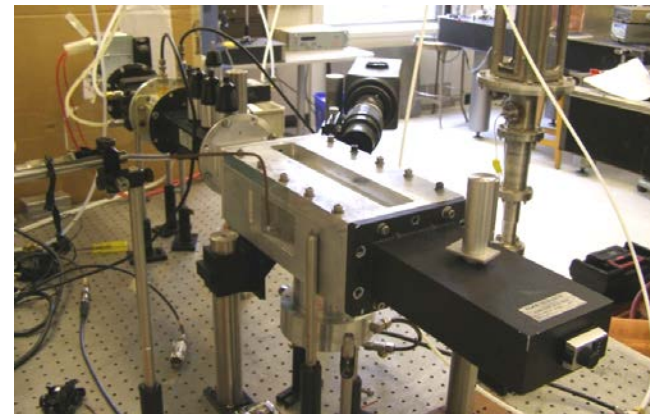
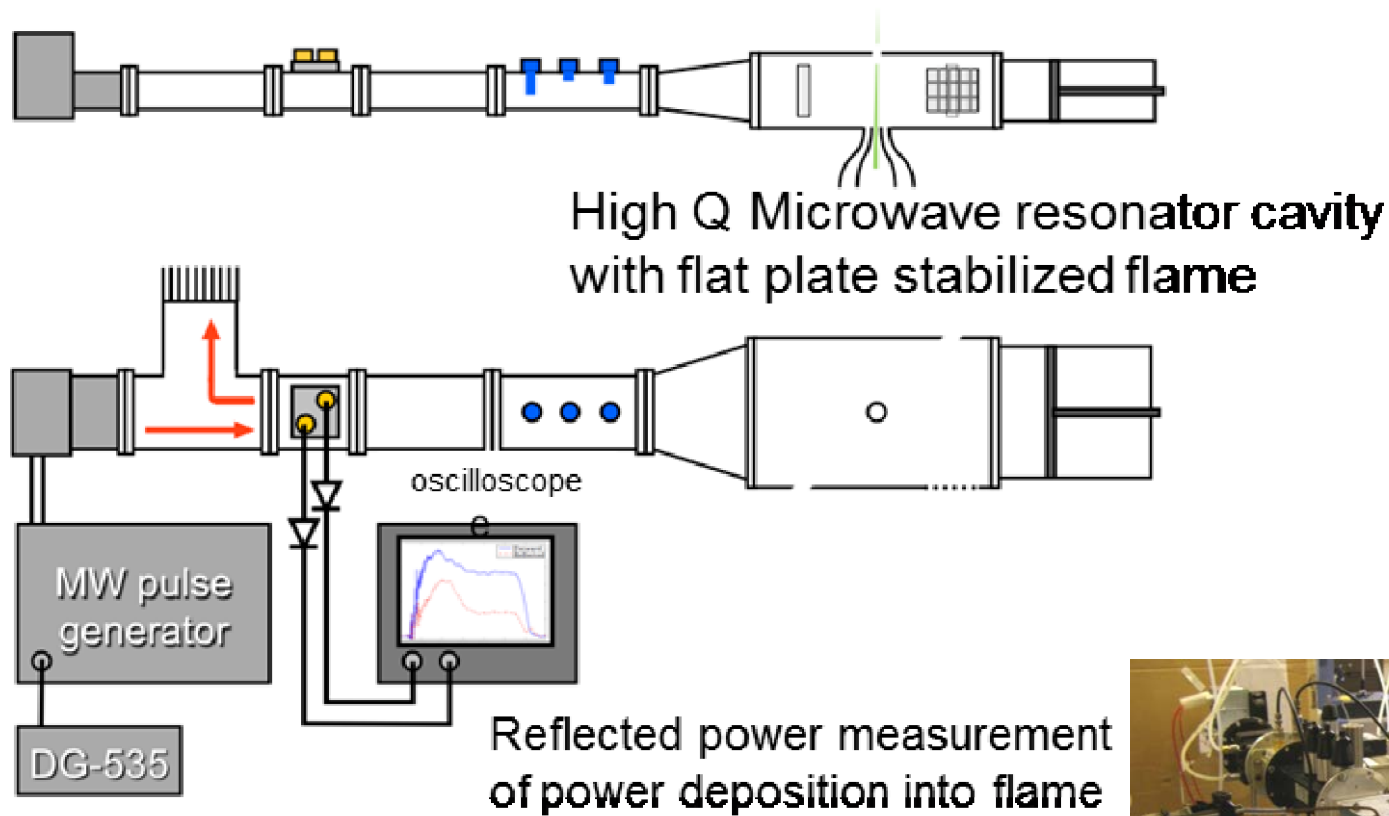
Microwave interactions with flames

Couples to natural ionization in the flame

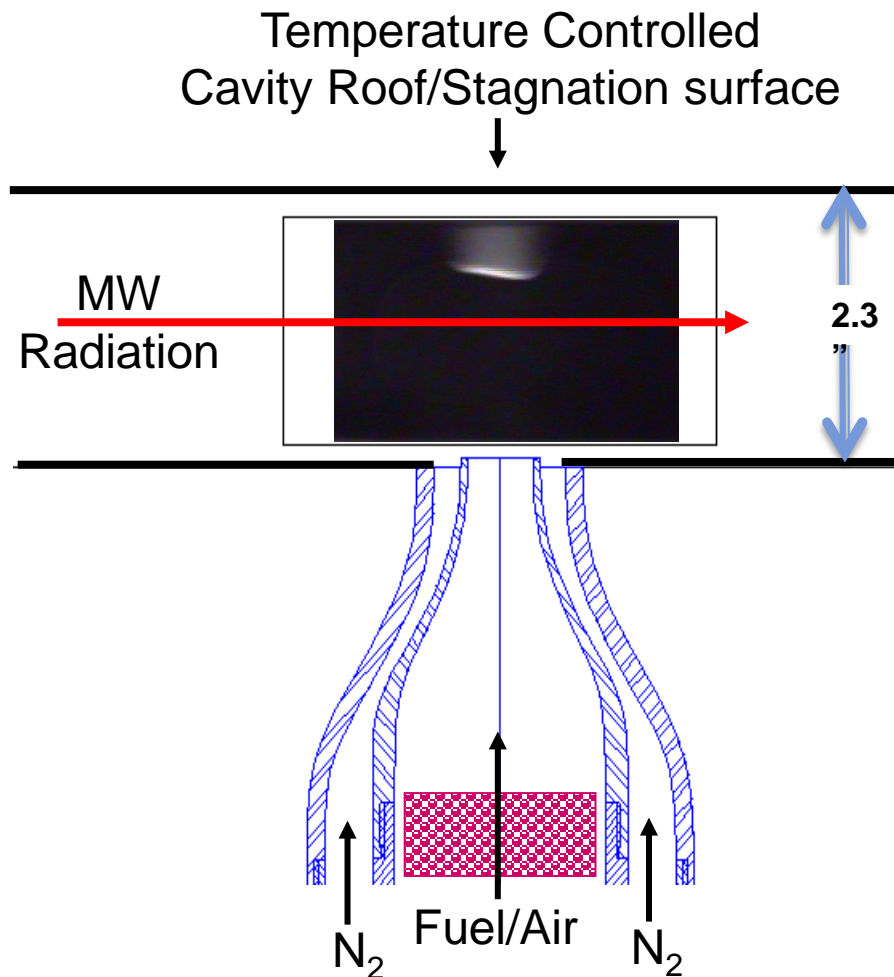
$\text{CH} + \text{O} \rightarrow \text{HCO}^+ + \text{electron}$



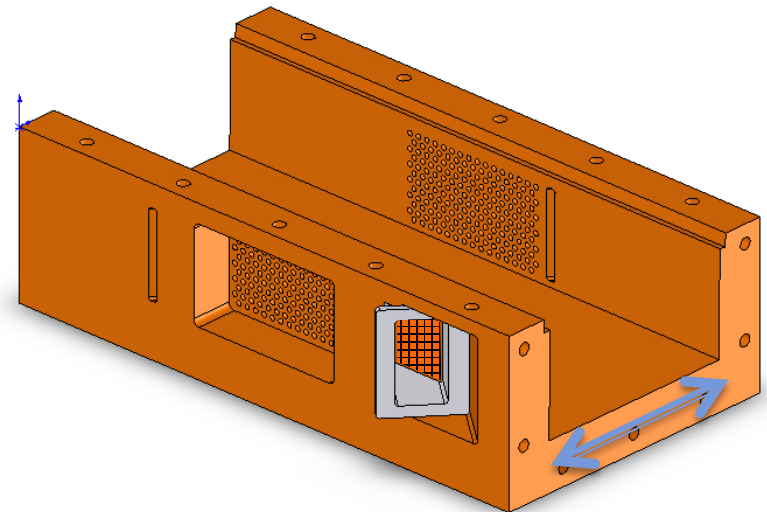
Microwave coupled Laminar Flame Set up



Experimental Setup: Laminar Burner



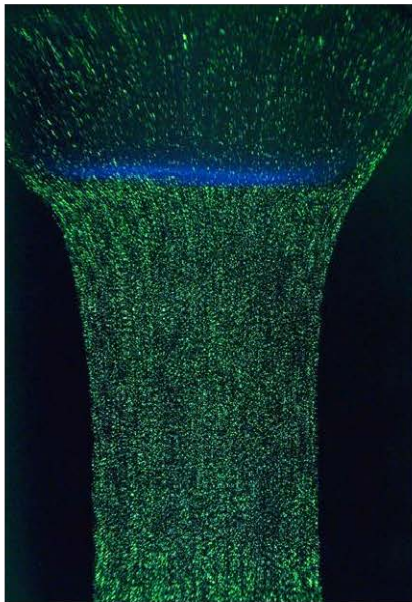
- Uniform velocity at exit
 $v_e < 100 \text{ cm/s}$
- Large $L/D \sim 3.8$ leads to low strain rates
- Flame stabilized by aerodynamic strain rate
- Cavity limited optical access
 - 'Meshed' windows
 - Narrow laser slots



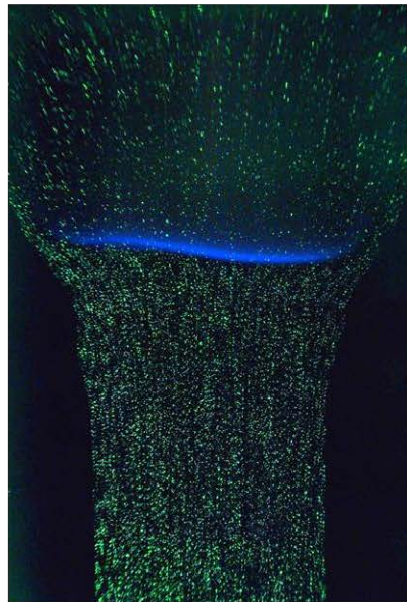
Flame Speed Enhancement with cw microwaves

CH_4/Air

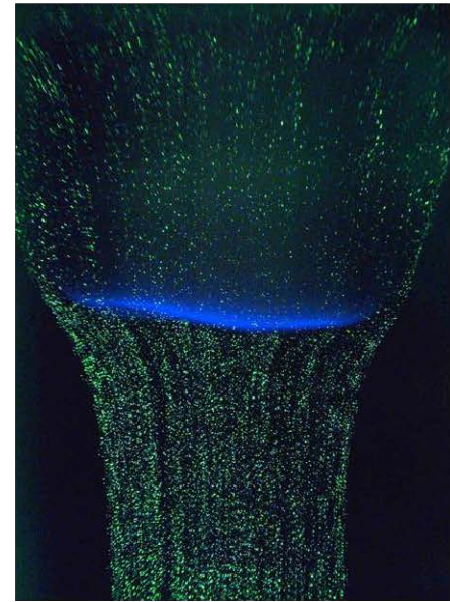
$v_{\text{exit}} = 85 \text{ cm/s}$ $\phi = 0.78$



0 Watts
 $S_{\text{ref}} = 33.7 \text{ cm/s}$



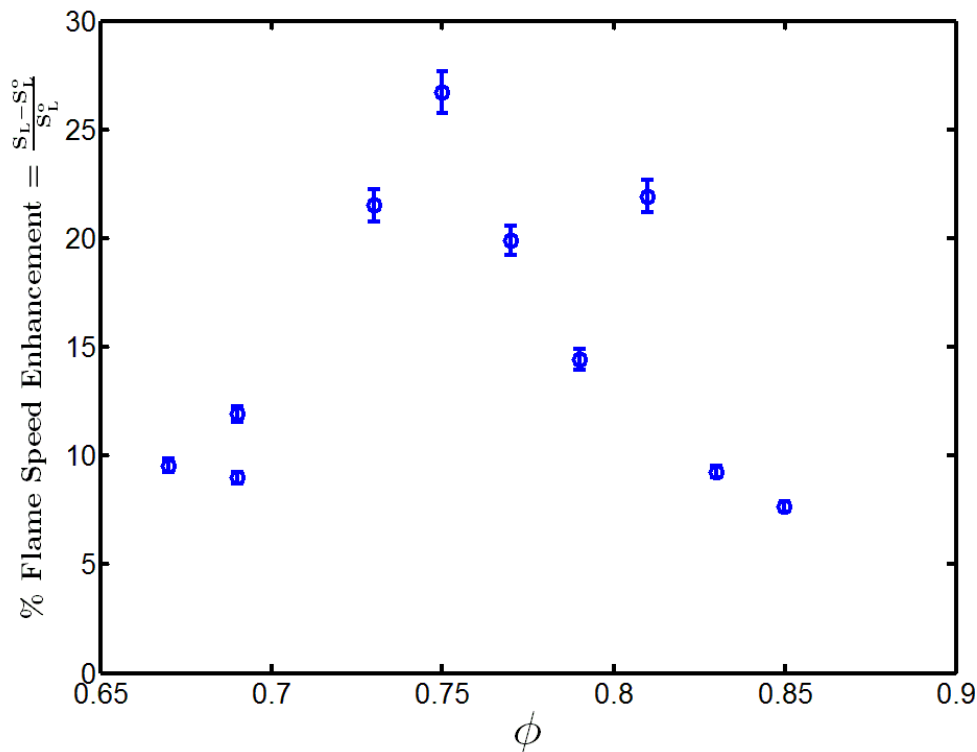
700 Watts
 $S_{\text{ref}} = 40.6 \text{ cm/s}$



1200 Watts
 $S_{\text{ref}} = 45.3 \text{ cm/s}$

FLAME SPEED ENHANCEMENT

CH₄/Air laminar stagnation flame speed enhancement
with 1.3kW cw-microwave radiation

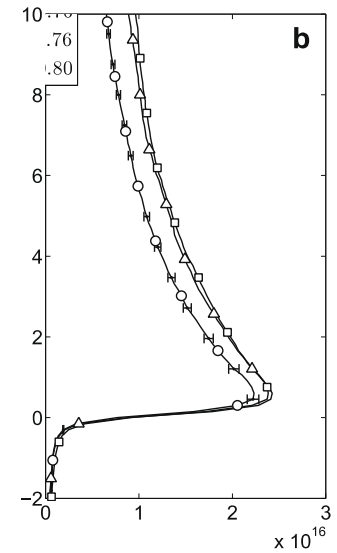
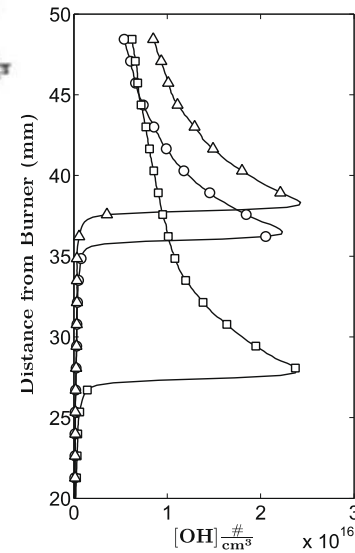
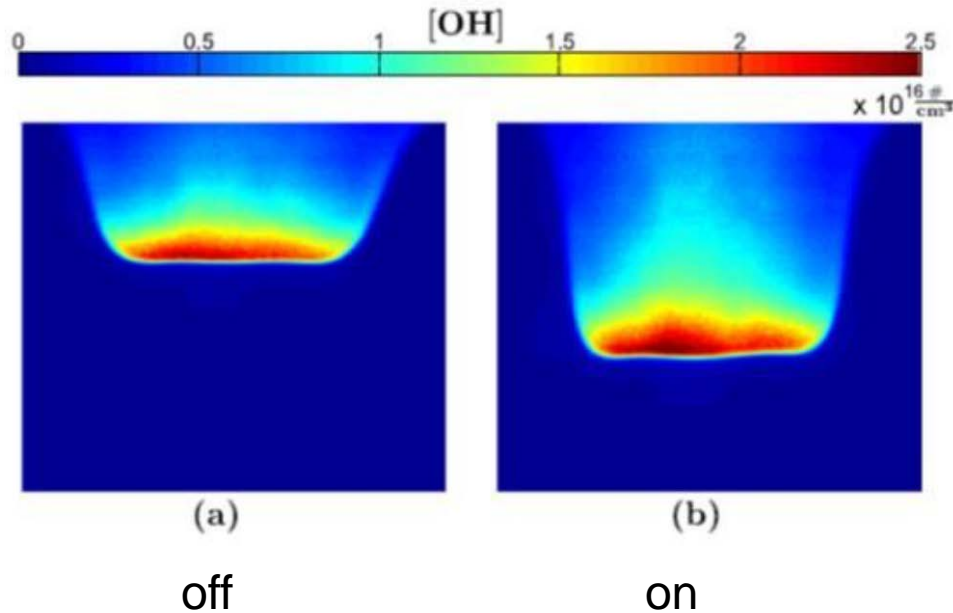


- 2% error in DPIV measurement propagates to ~4% error in flame speed enhancement percentage
- Peaking at $\phi=0.75$ might be an outcome of experimental procedure

~25% enhancement seen with 1.3 kW magnetron, ~10-20W absorbed power

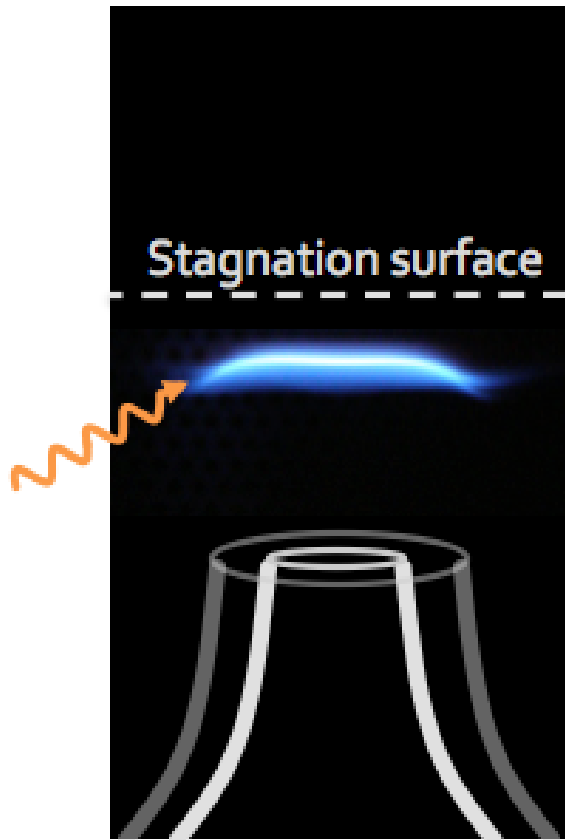
LiF Measurement of OH (with AFRL)

$$\phi = 0.76$$

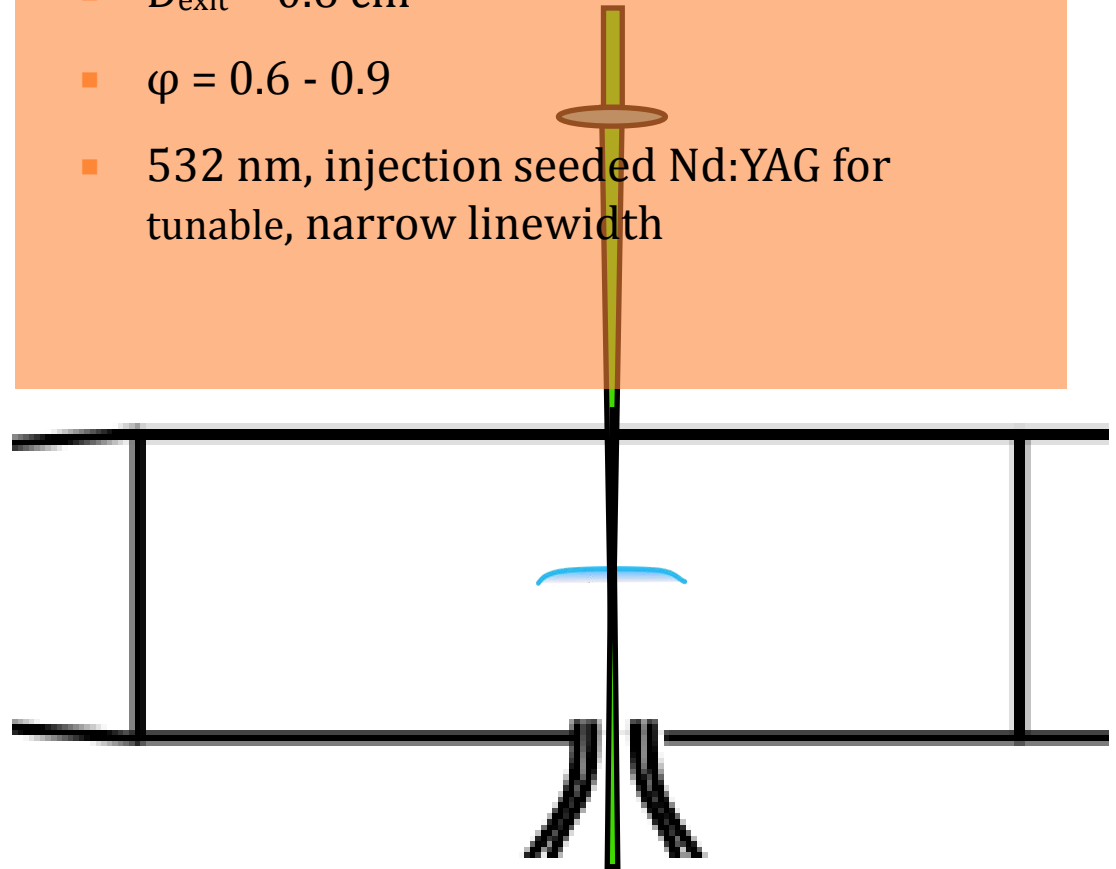


The OH level is increased and the OH decay rate away from the flame front is reduced

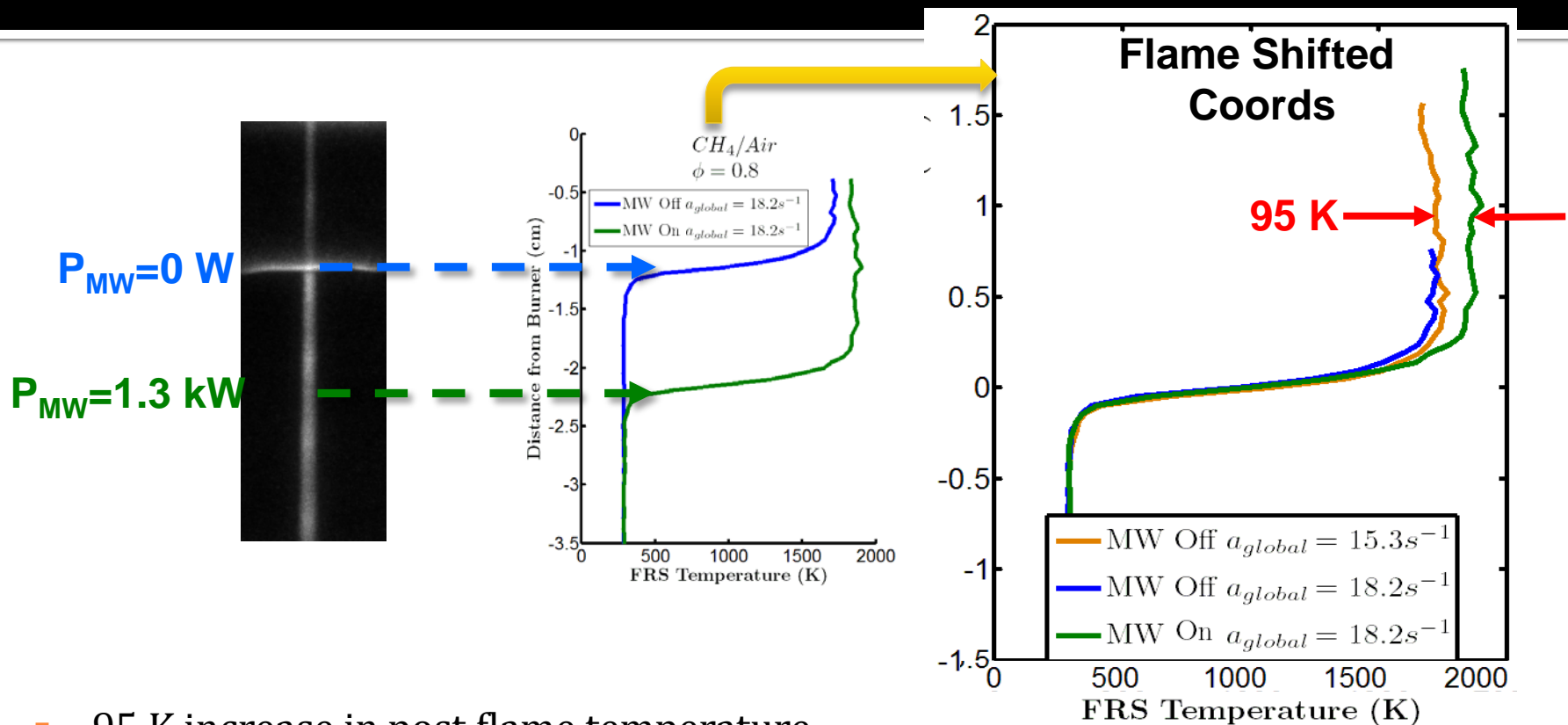
FRS Thermometry



- $U_{\text{exit}} \sim 60 \text{ cm/s}$
- $D_{\text{exit}} = 0.6 \text{ cm}$
- $\phi = 0.6 - 0.9$
- 532 nm, injection seeded Nd:YAG for tunable, narrow linewidth



Line FRS Thermometry



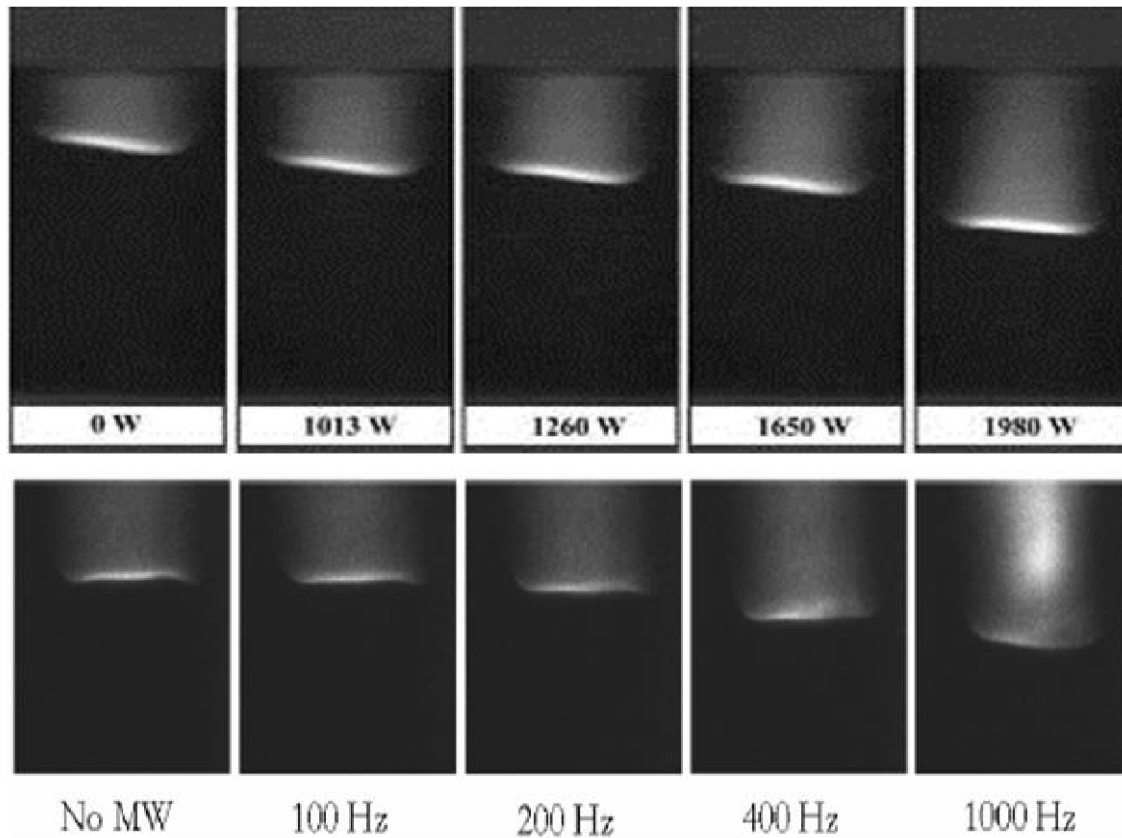
- 95 K increase in post flame temperature
- Temperature rise is just after flame sheet
 - Implies microwave energy deposition is in flame sheet

Microwave interactions with flames

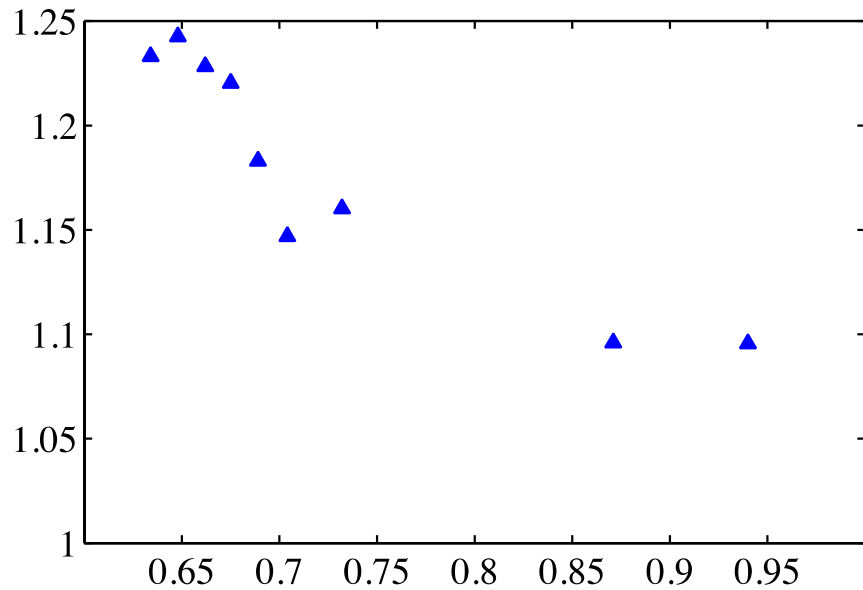
Using microsecond duration pulsed microwaves



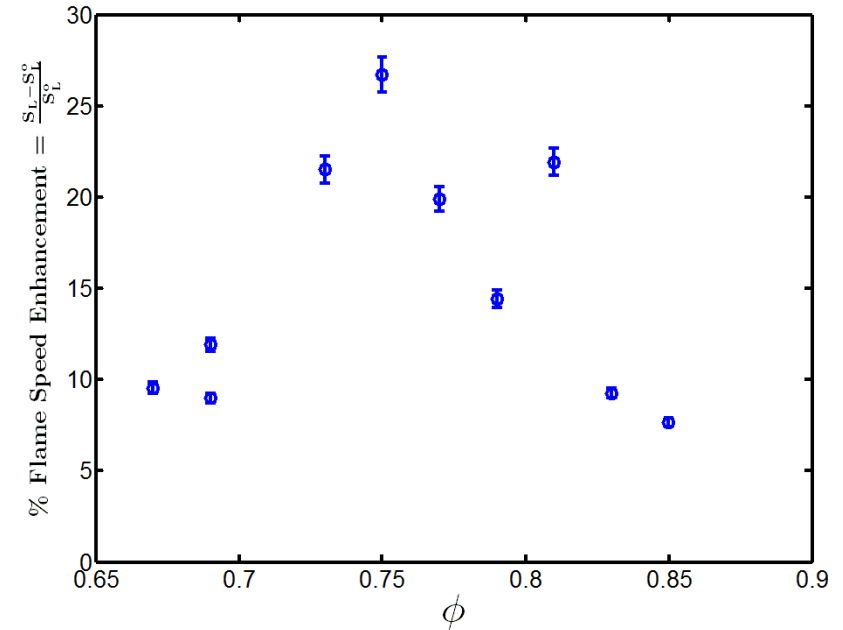
Comparison of Flame Speed enhancement CW and pulsed microwaves



Flame Speed Enhancement with Pulsed Microwaves



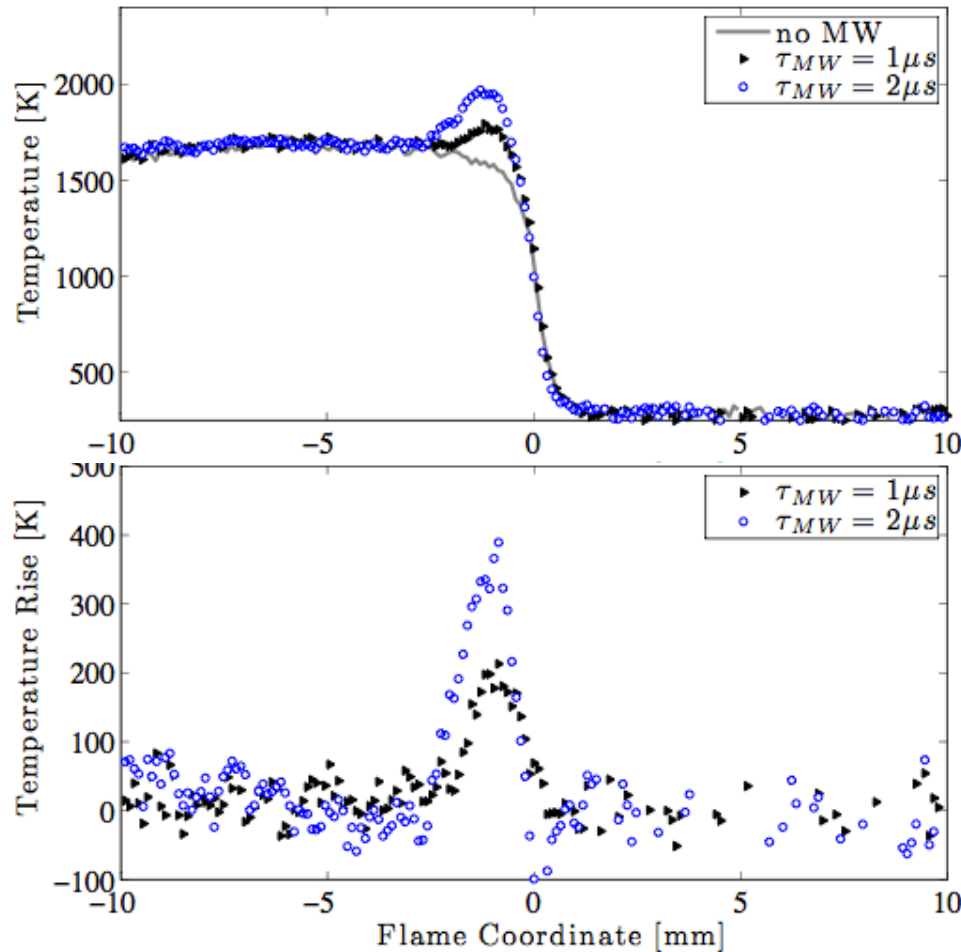
Pulsed 1 kHz, 5 mj/ pulse = 50 Watts



CW – 1.3 kW

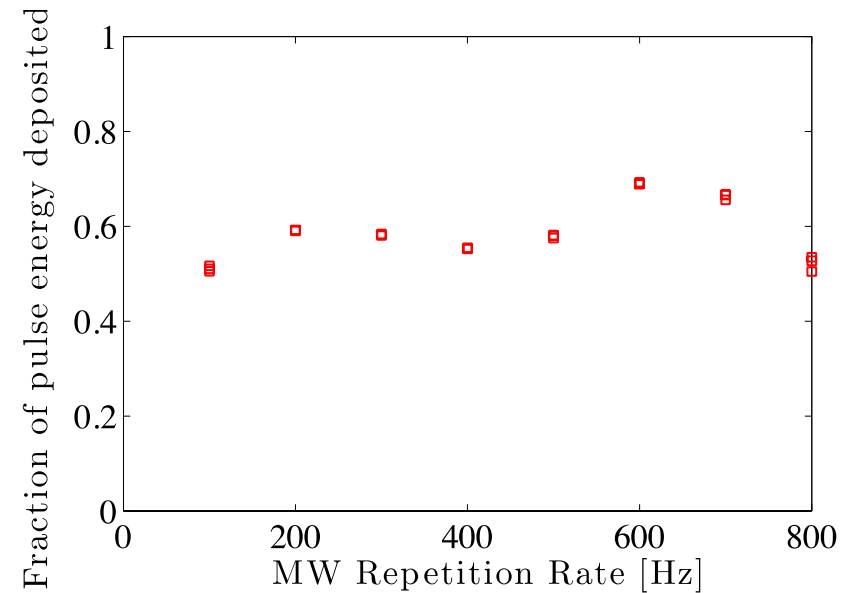
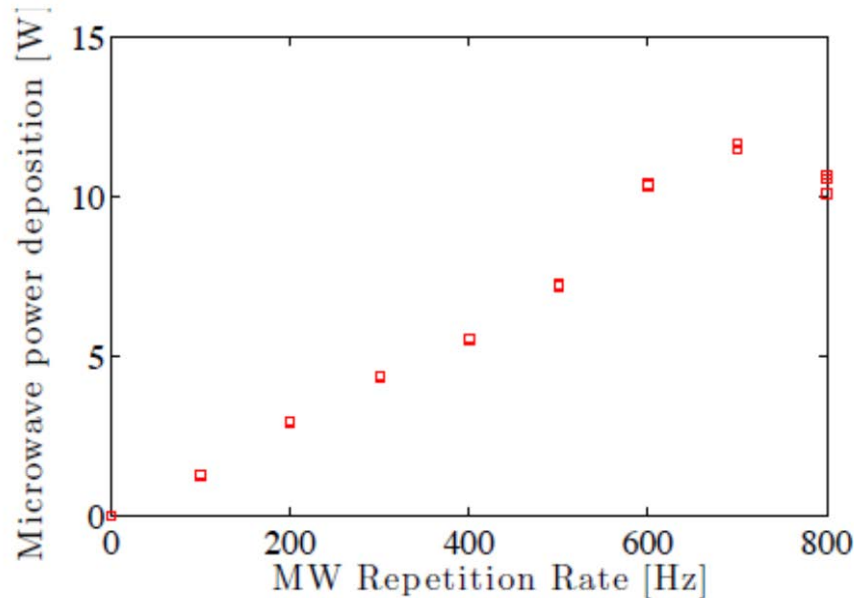
Reduction in average power by a factor of 26

Single pulse temperature jump



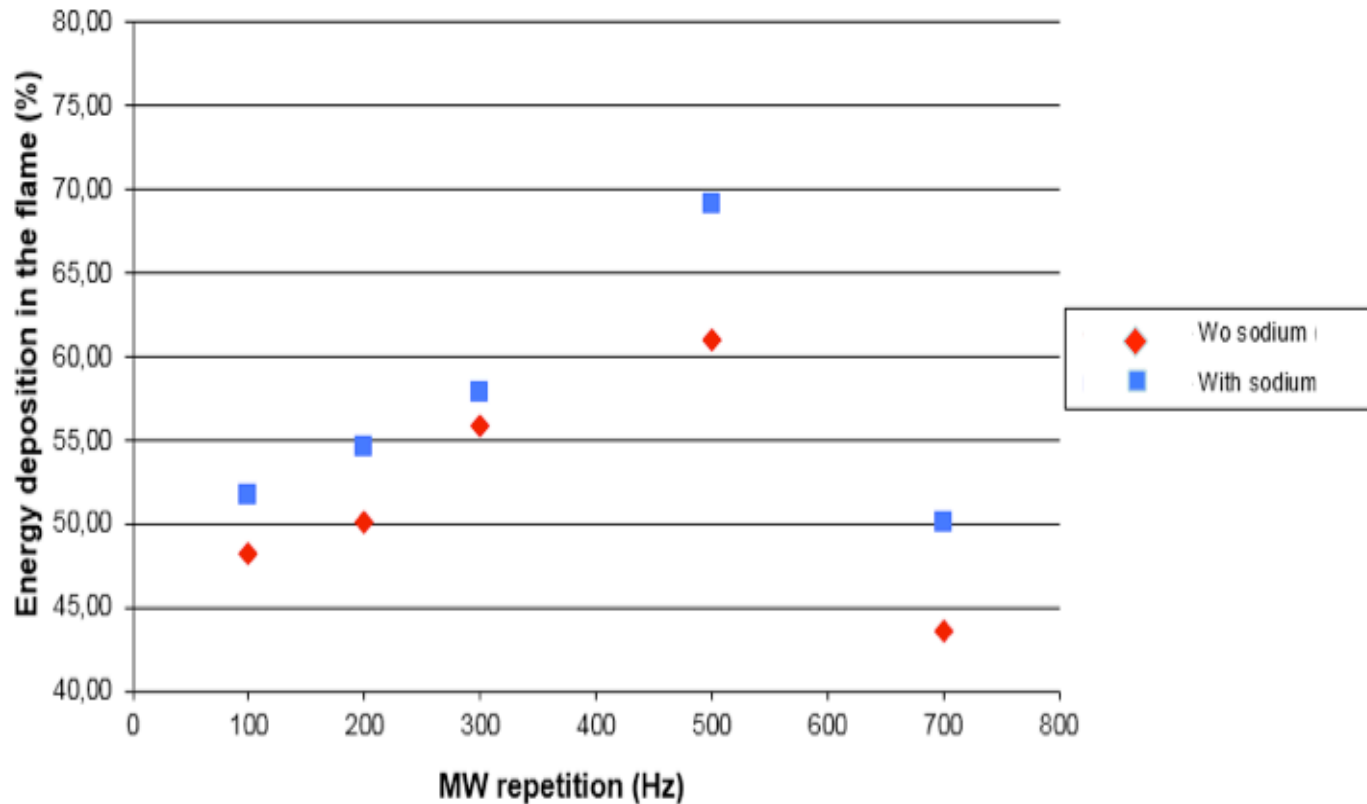
- Deposition localized near flame front/reaction zone
- 25 mJ, 1 μs pulse gives 200 K rise
- 50 mJ, 2 μs pulse gives 350 K rise
- With 30 Watts average pulsed power the flame speed is enhanced as much as with a 1.3 kW continuous microwave
- Coupling efficiency is $\sim 60\%$.

Power Deposition into flame from pulsed microwave system

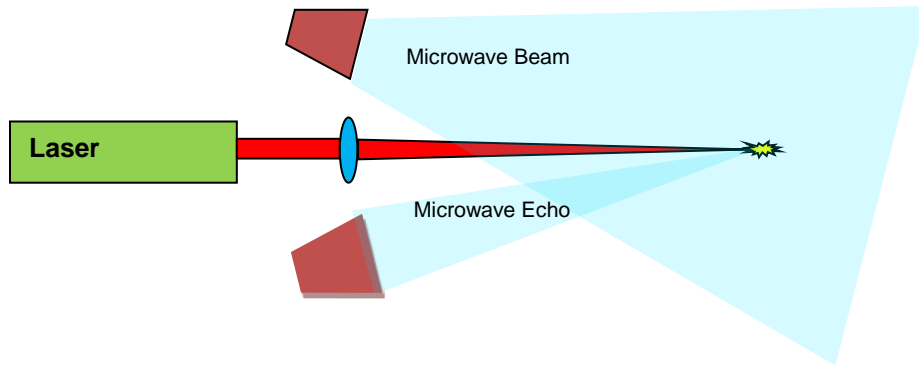


High efficiency coupling of pulsed microwaves

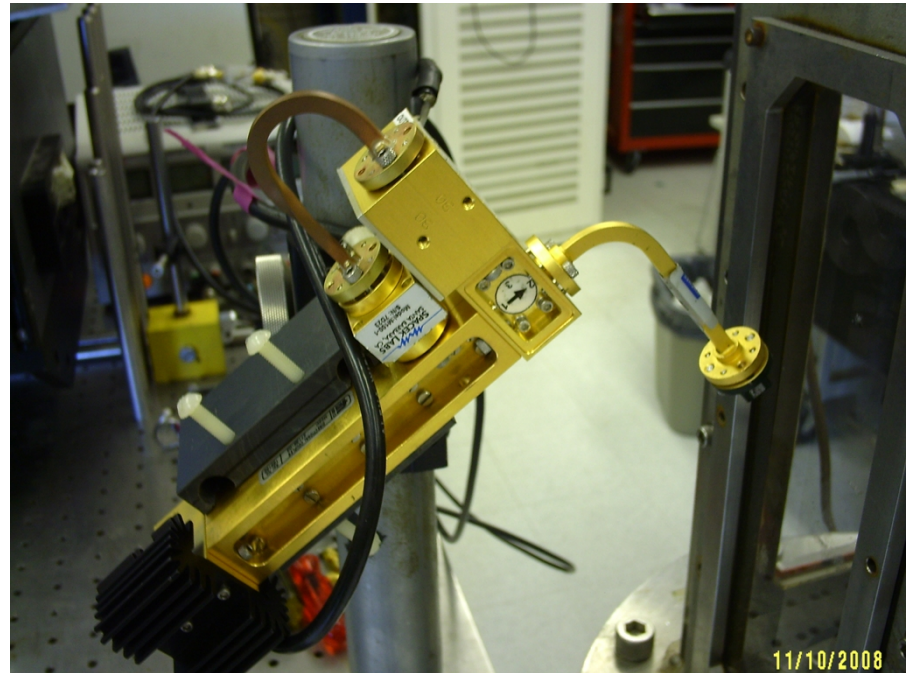
Further enhanced by seeding the fuel with sodium



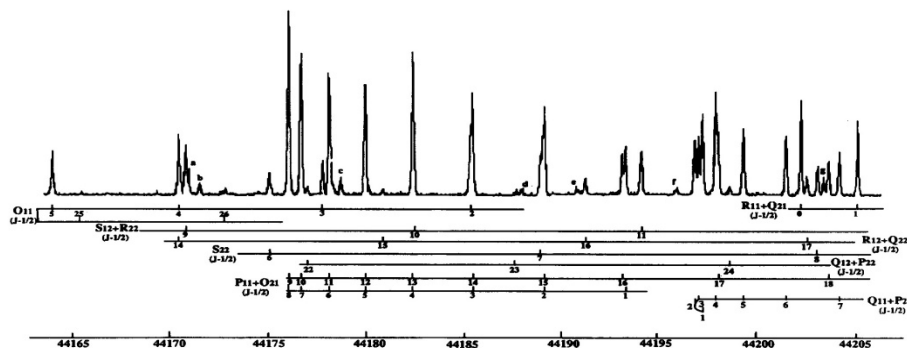
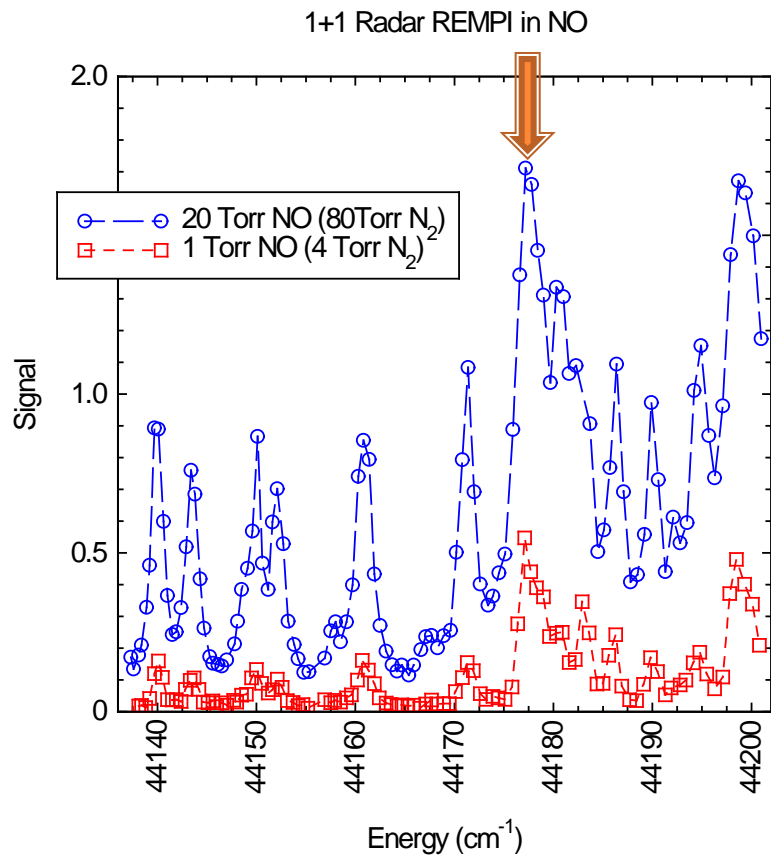
Radar REMPI measurement of NO



Microwave/laser measurement configuration. *The focused laser creates a small region of ionization and the microwaves are scattered from that region into the microwave detector.*

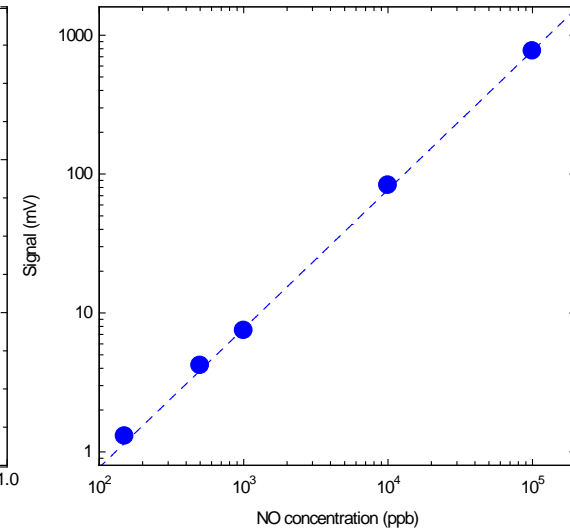
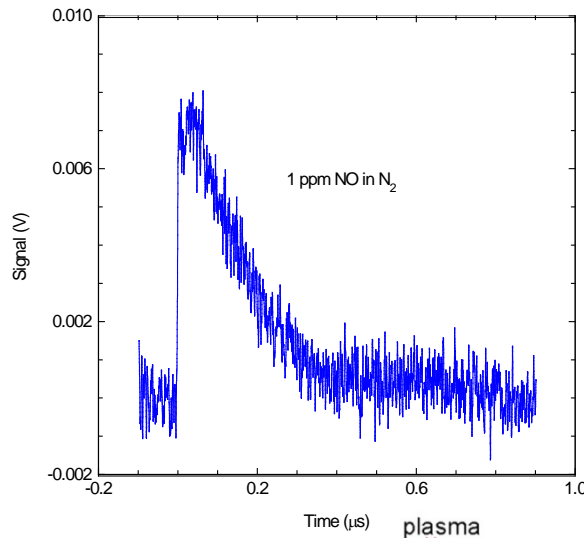
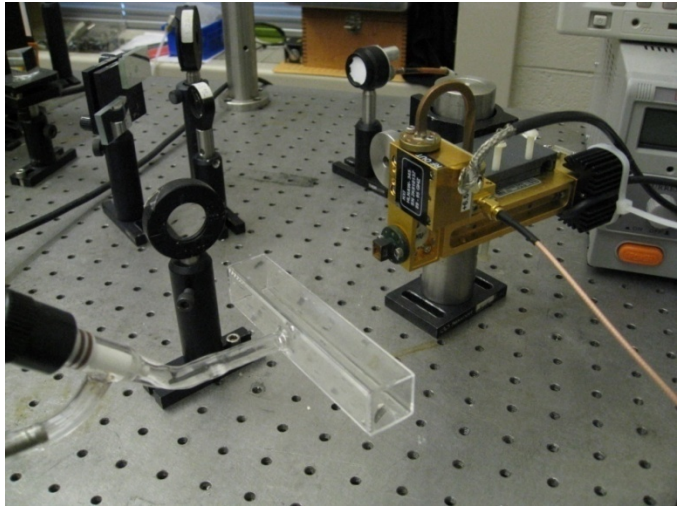


NO spectrum via 1+1 Radar REMPI

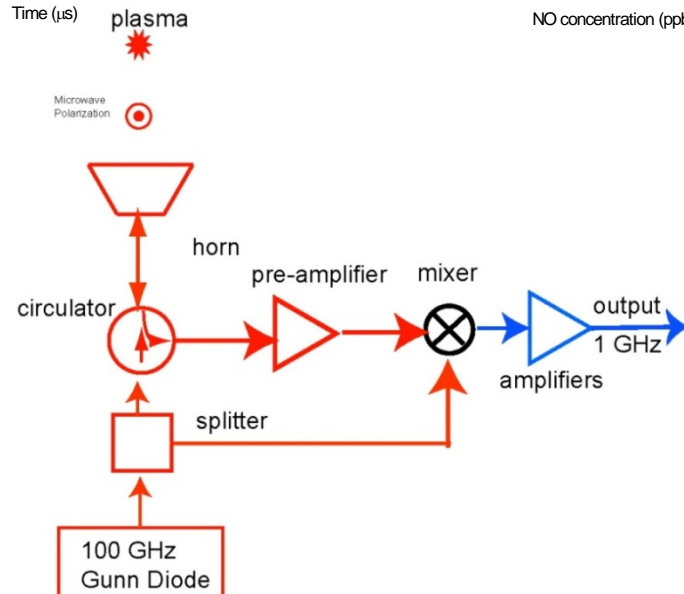


$A^2\Sigma^+ \leftarrow X^2\Pi$ molecular electronic transition

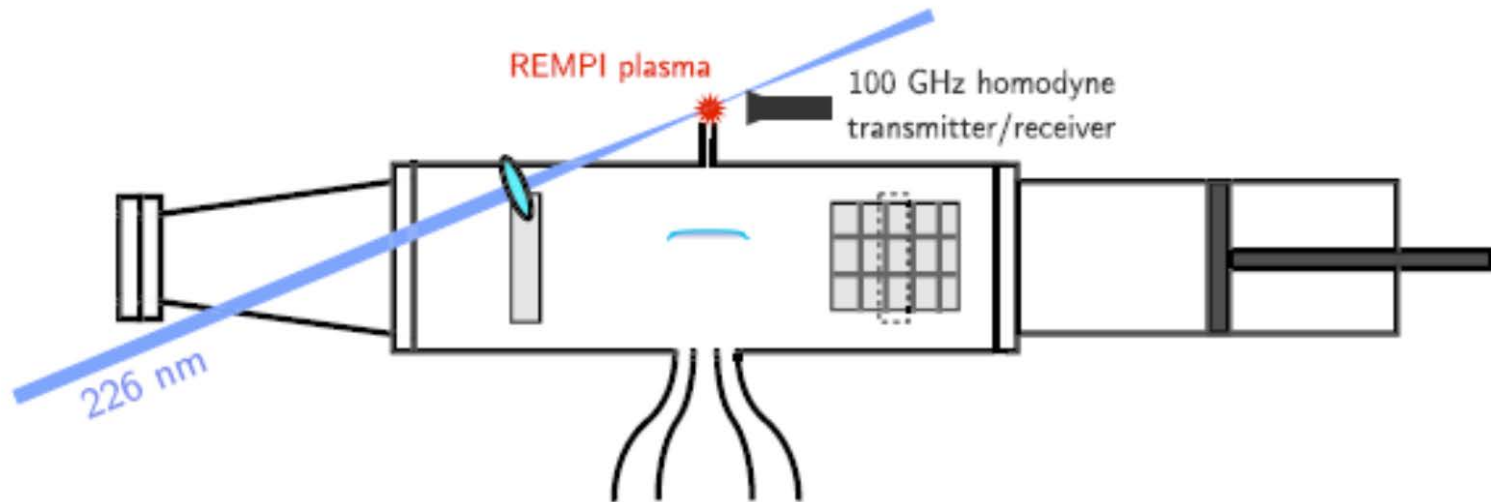
Radar REMPI Experimental Setup



- 1+1 REMPI of NO with 226 nm laser
- 100 GHz probes the plasma.
- The mixer output is proportional to the scattering amplitude, hence electron density
- Linear signal from ppm to ppb
- Sub-nanosecond temporal resolution

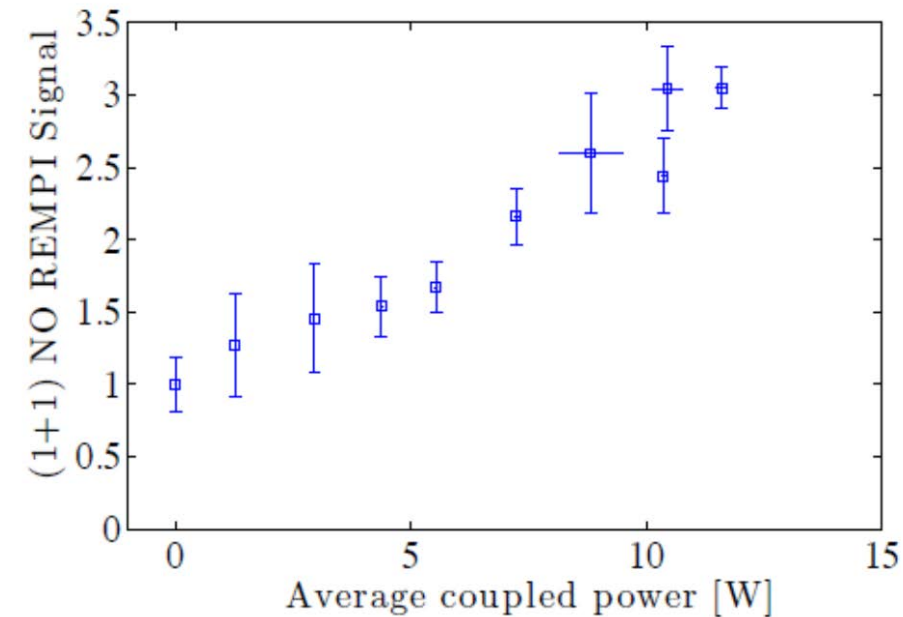


Nitric Oxide production with pulsed microwaves using Radar REMPI



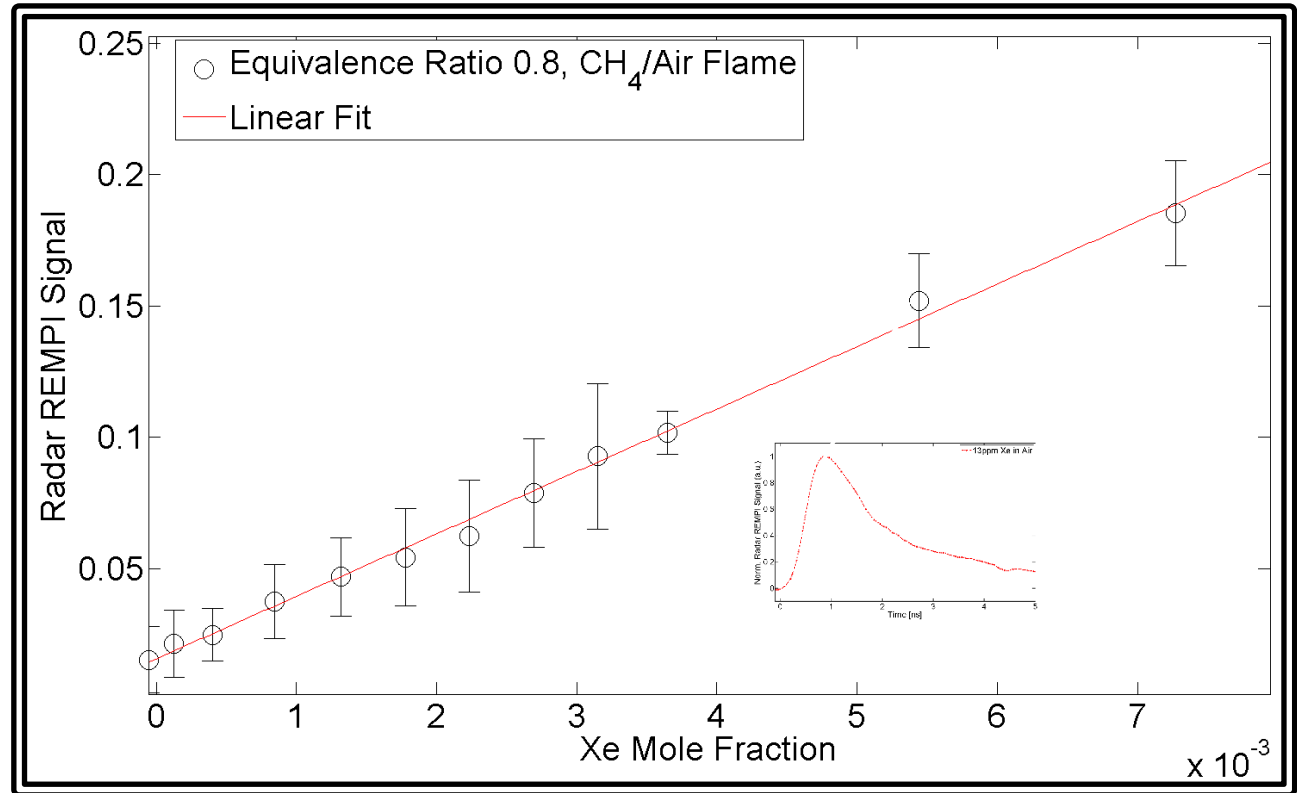
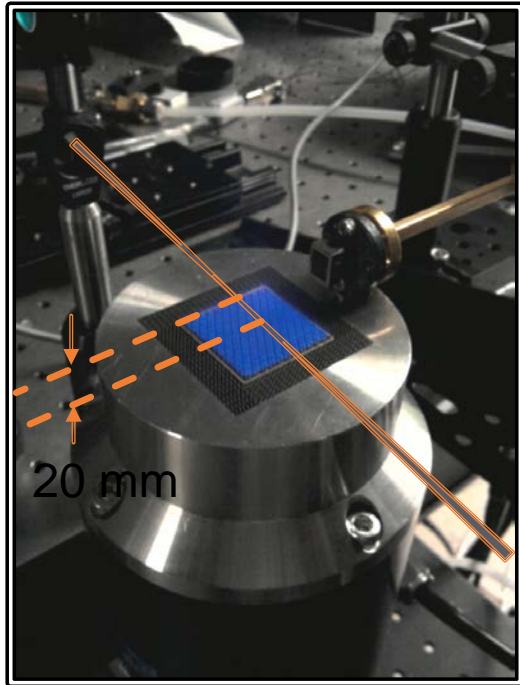
NO measured in the post flame product gas and averaged over time

Increase of NO with microwave power



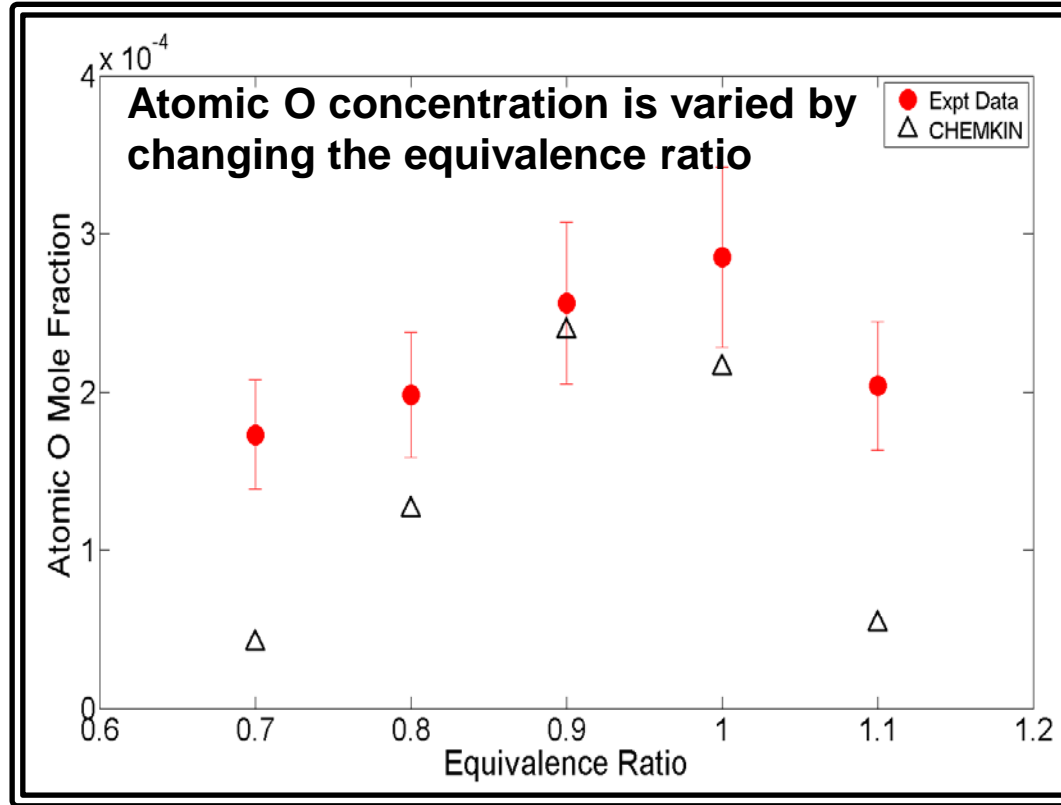
Predicted nitric oxide increase as a function of temperature over $\phi = 0.8$ equilibrium

Xe Signal Linearity (CH₄/Air Flame)



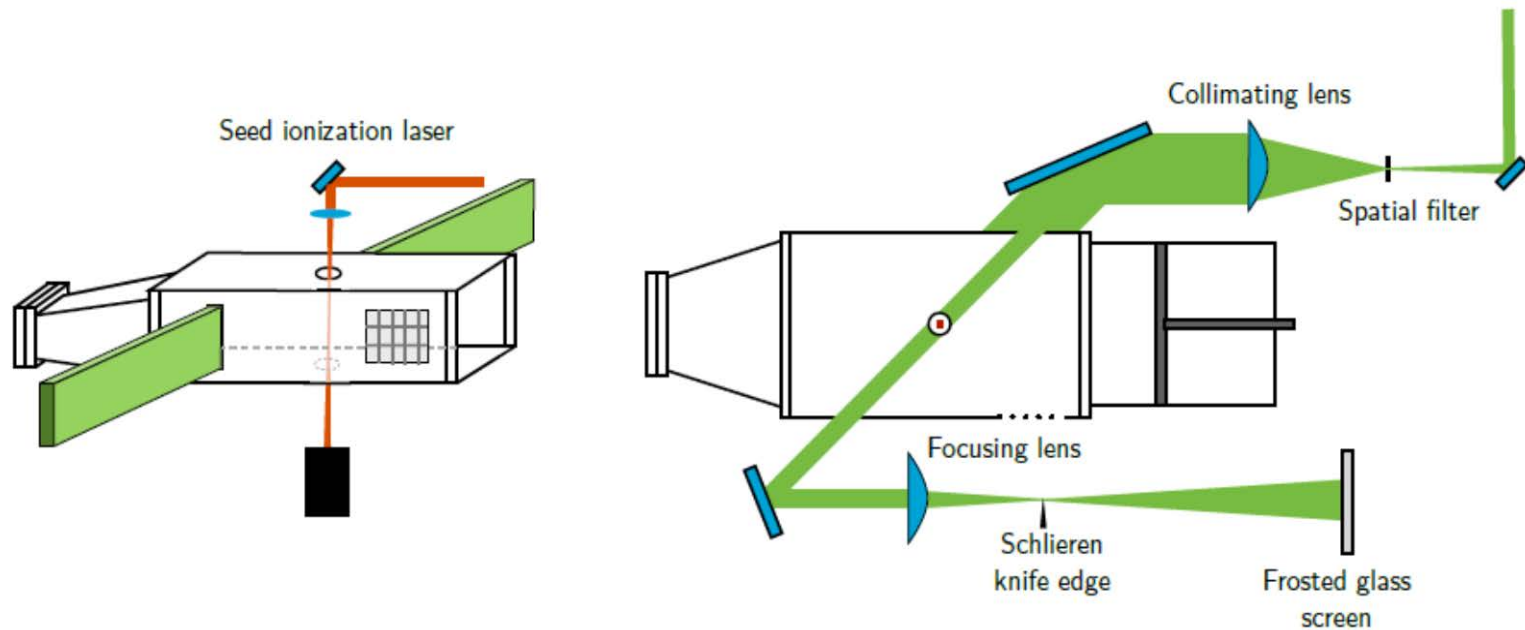
- Good signal linearity with Xe concentration observed at 20 mm above the burner surface, where atomic O concentrations are expected to approach equilibrium values
- Xe detection limit in a flame ~ 130 ppm ($10^{14} - 10^{15}$ cm⁻³)

Inferred Atomic O Concentrations Using Xe Calibration



- Reasonable agreement close to stoichiometric conditions but overshoot in the fuel rich and lean regime

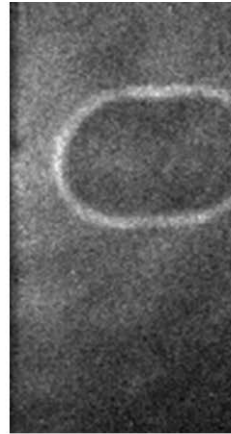
Schlieren imaging of Microwave coupling for laser ignition and preionization studies



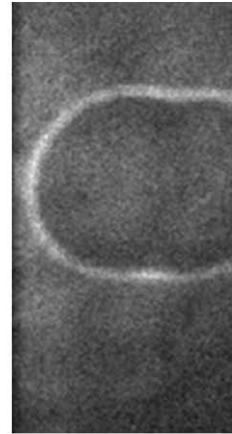
Enhanced kernel growth rate following laser designated, pulsed microwave ignition.

Laser-MW ignition

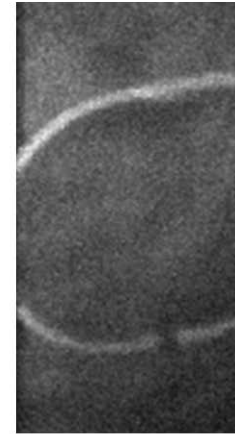
0.9 ms



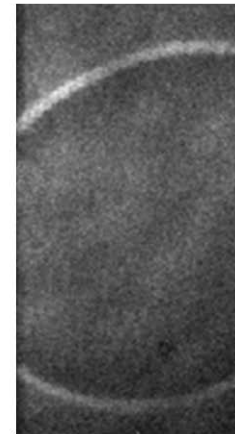
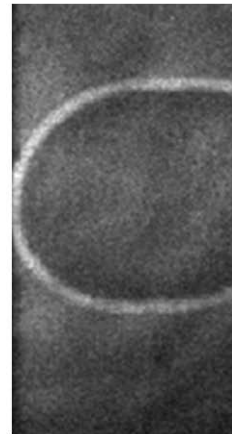
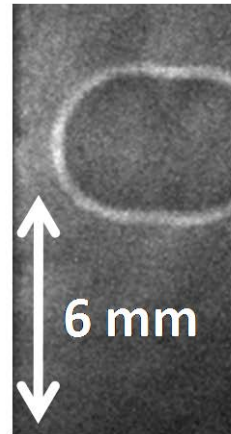
1.9 ms



2.9 ms



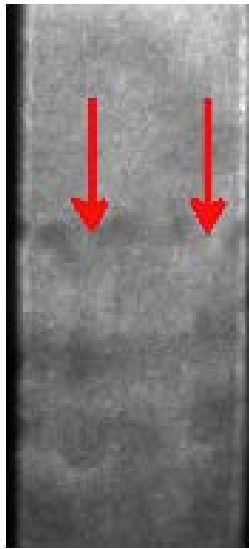
Laser-MW ignition
with additional MW
pulses at ms intervals.



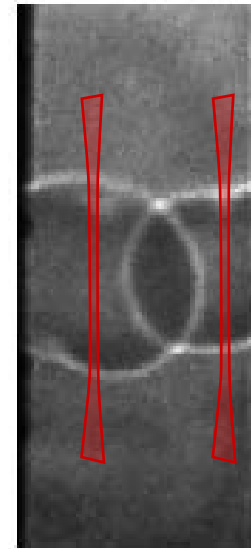
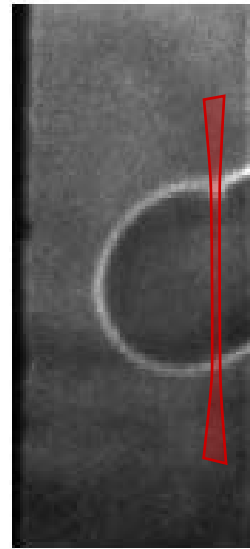
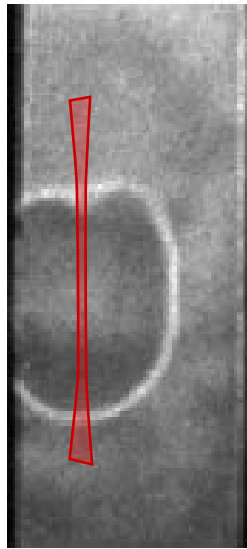
Multi-point ignition

Michael, et al., Journal of Applied Physics 108 (2010) 093308.

- ▶ 2 laser ionization regions in one standing mode
maximumSingle 75 mJ, 3 μ s MW pulse

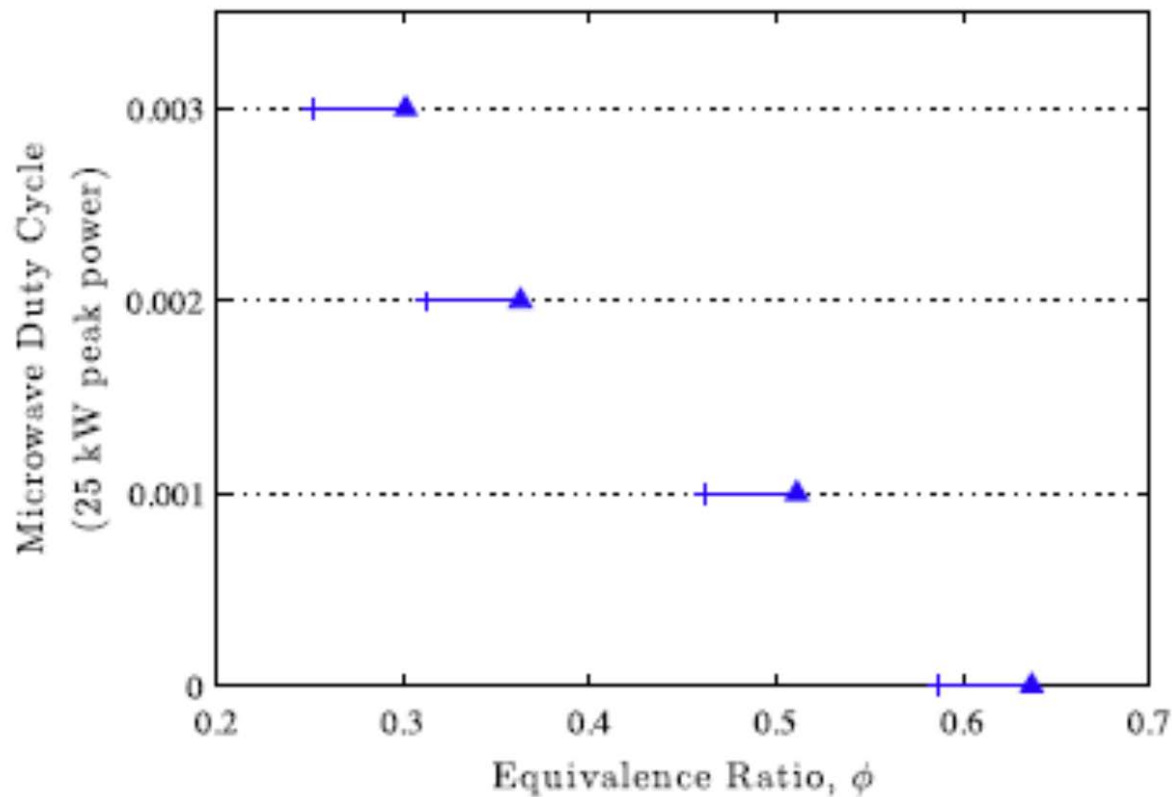


NO MW



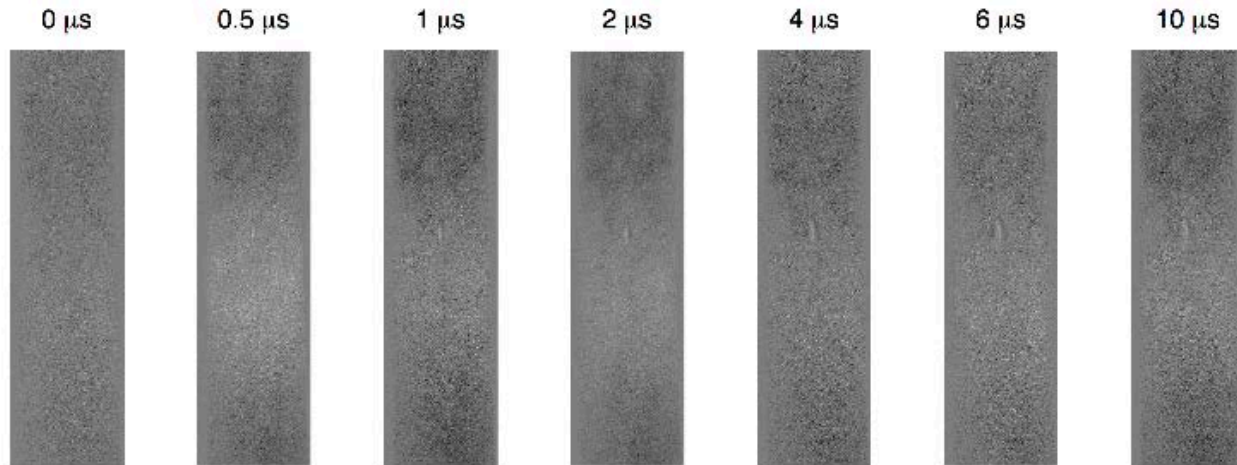
DUAL

Reduction of lean limit with 1 Khz microwave pulses

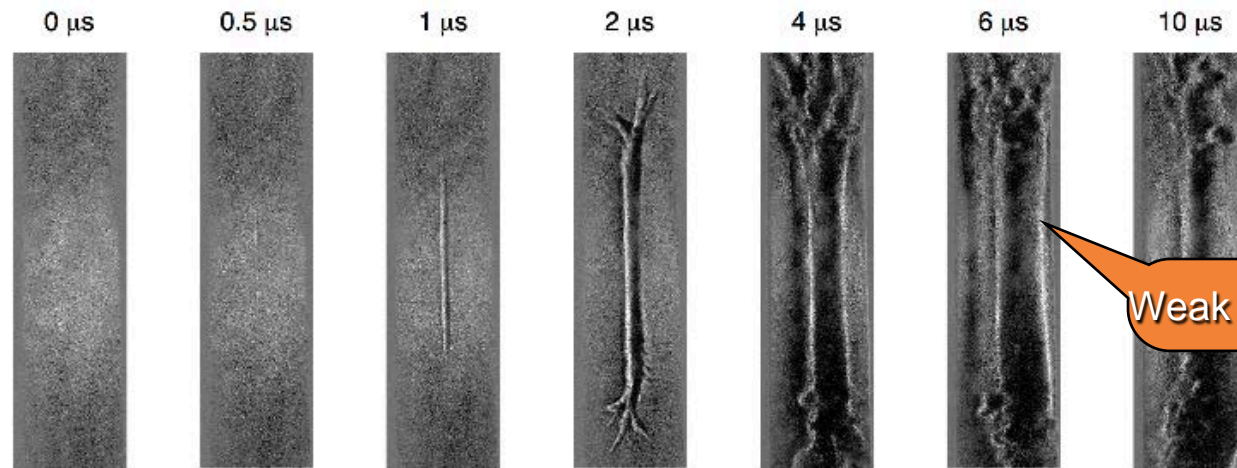


Air heating of 600 μJ femtosecond seed by Subcritical Microwave

LASER

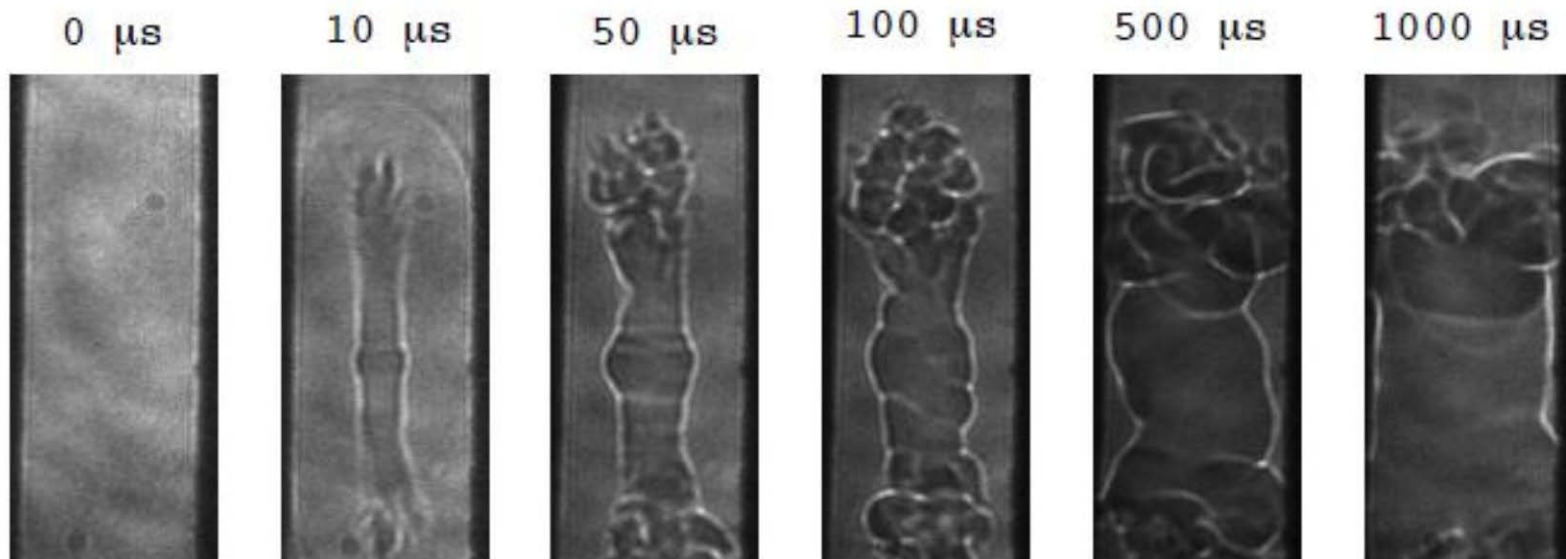


LASER
+
50 mJ
MW



Weak shock ($M = 1$)

Line ignition using microwave coupling to fsec laser preionization line

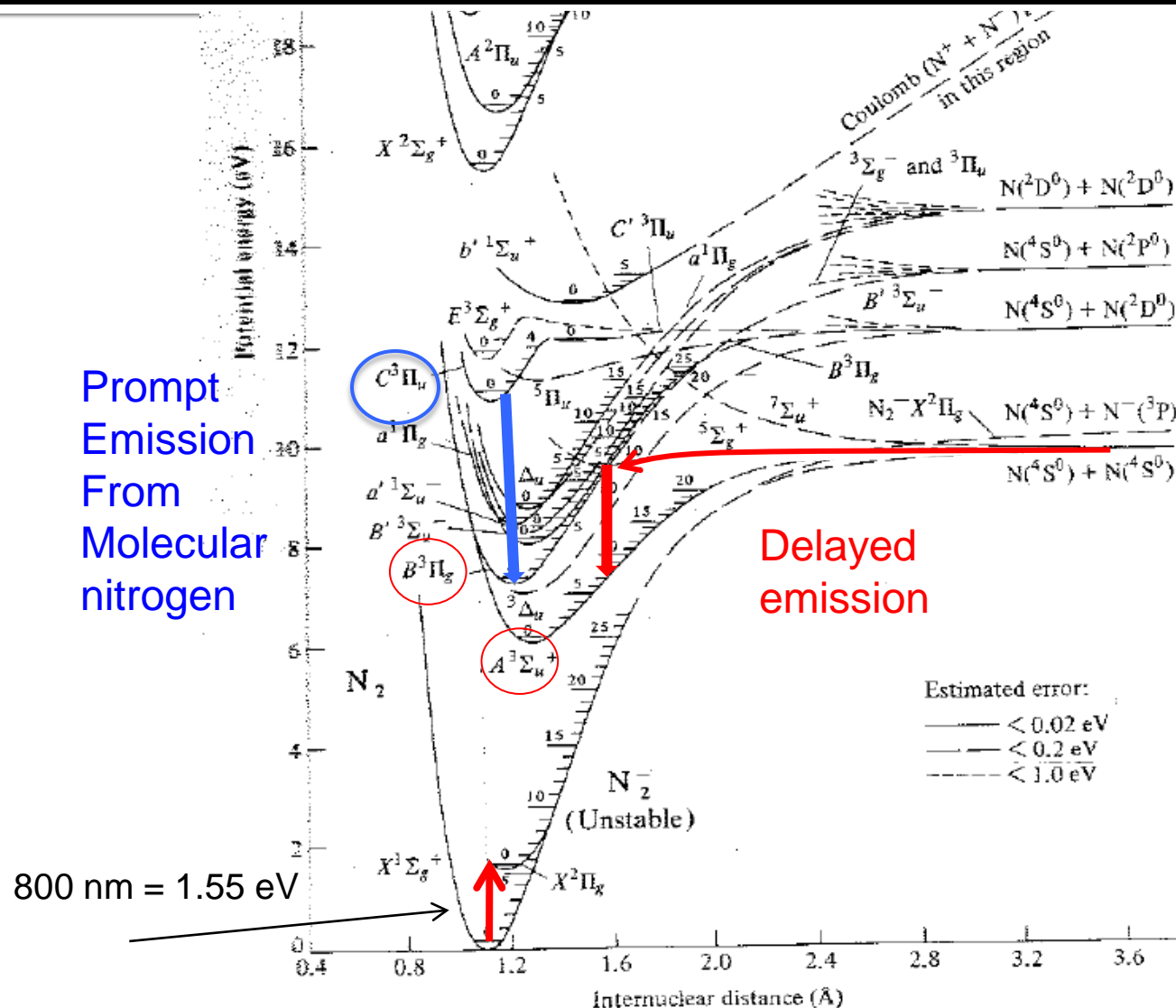


Femtosecond Laser Electronic Excitation Tagging (FLEET)

For Velocity and Temperature Profile Imaging



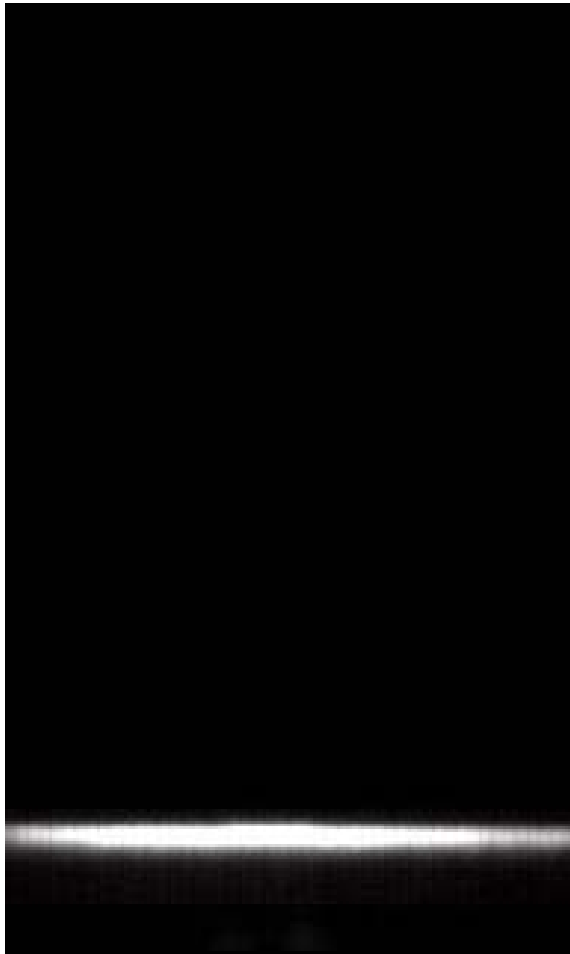
Nitrogen Emission



Recombination
Of atomic nitrogen

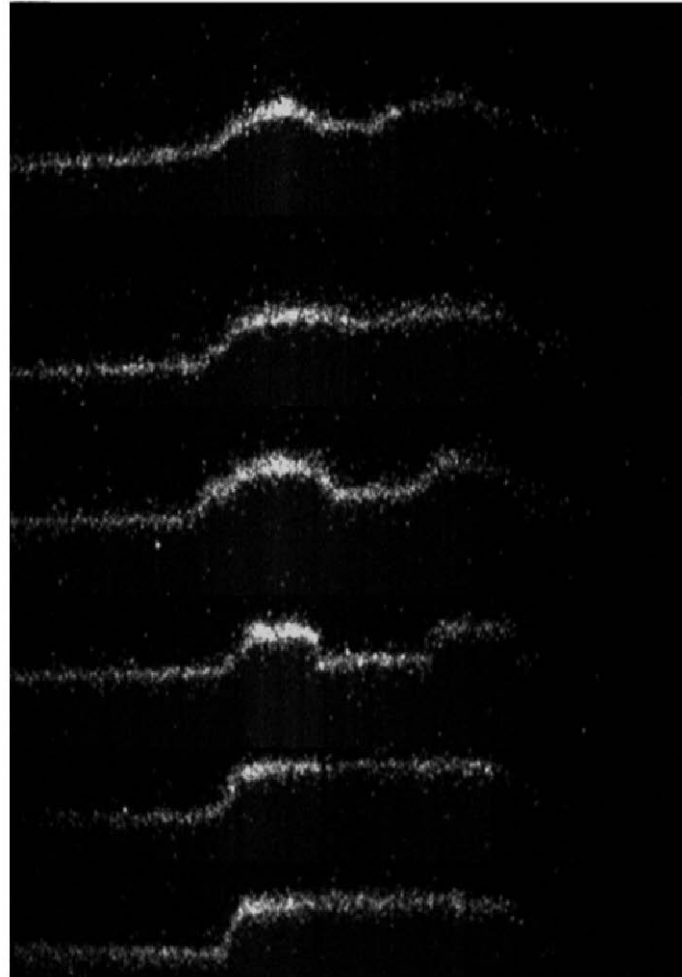
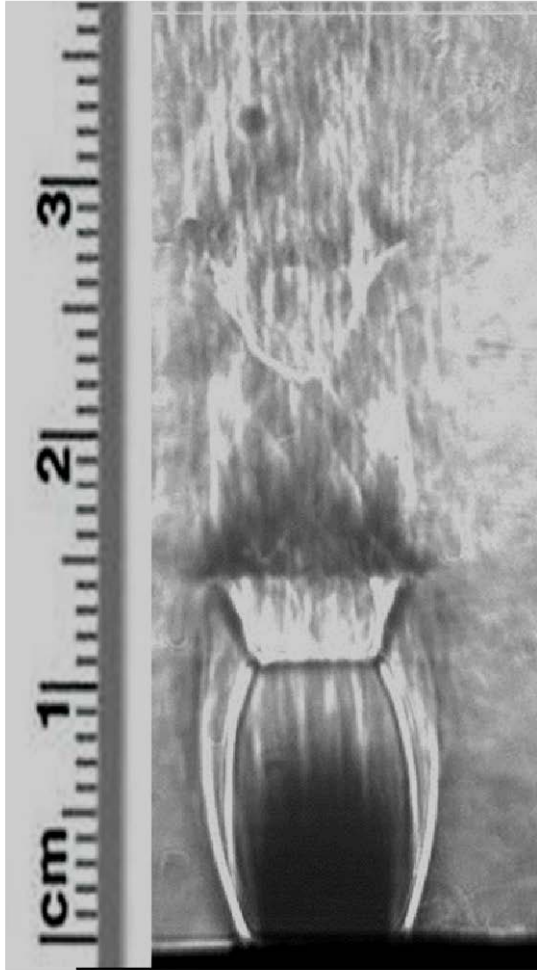


Subsonic Demonstration Video (with AFRL)

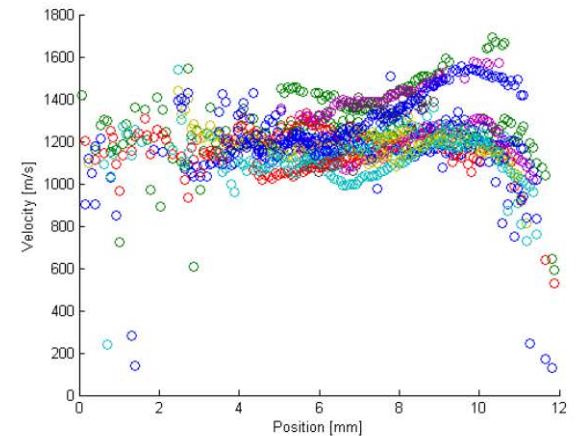
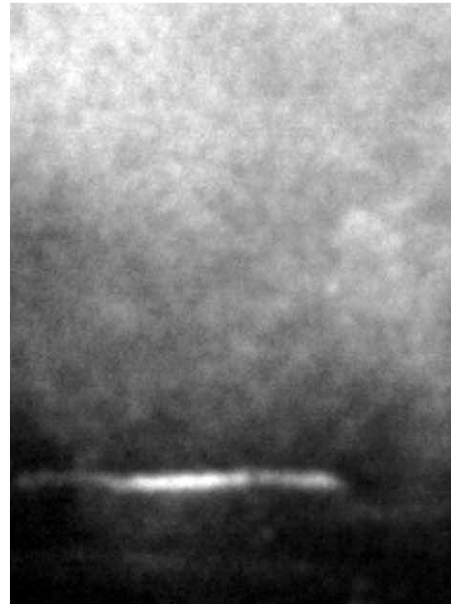
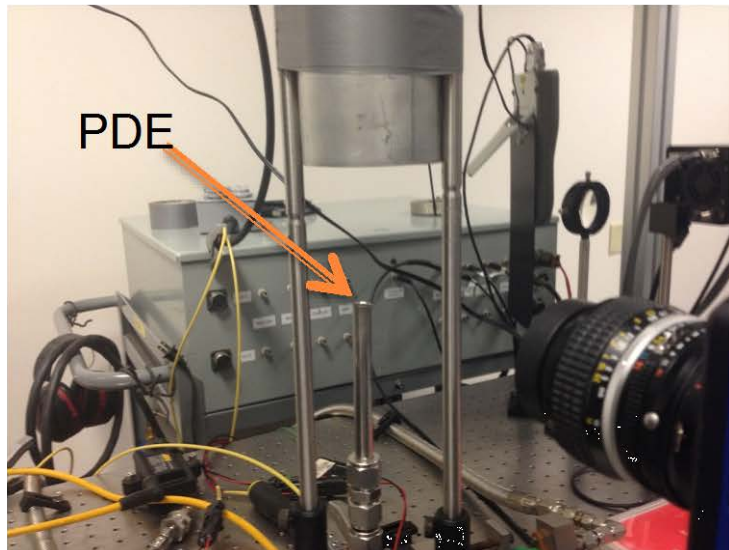


- Each progression includes about 10 line displacement shots due to the long lifetime in pure N₂
- Measured centerline velocity $\sim 150\text{m/s}$

FLEET in Supersonic flow



FLEET measurements of Pulse Detonation Engine at AFRL



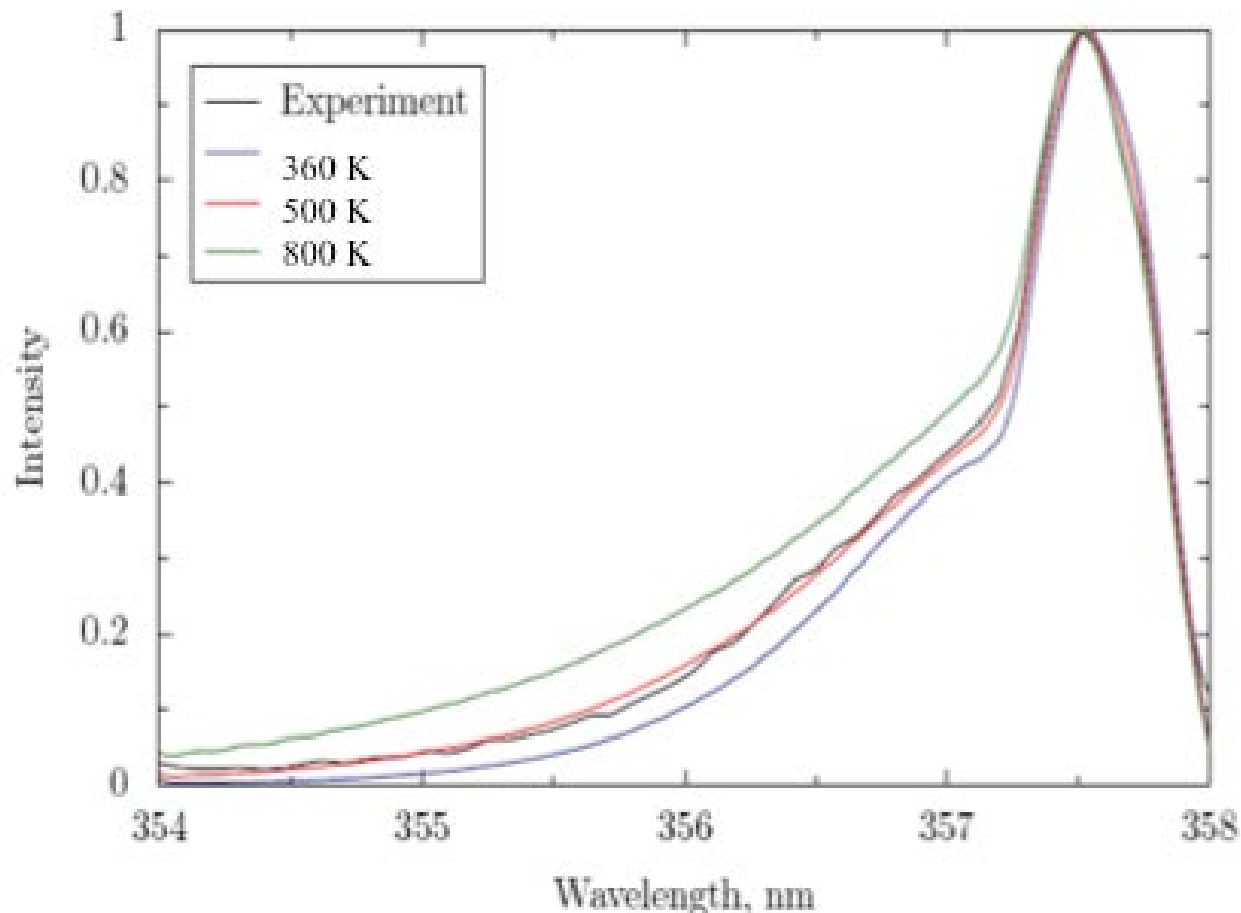
Displaced line after 1 μ sec
Undisplaced line

FLEET For Temperature Profiles

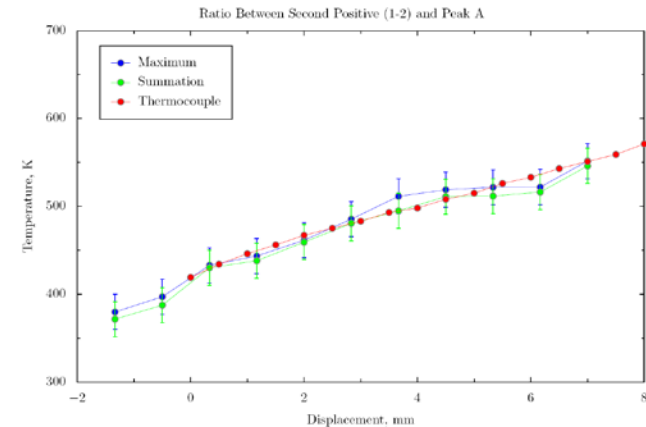
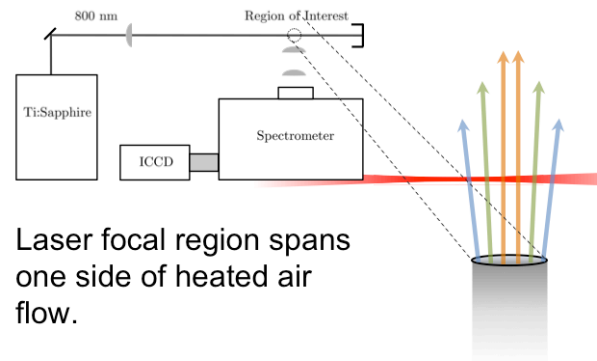
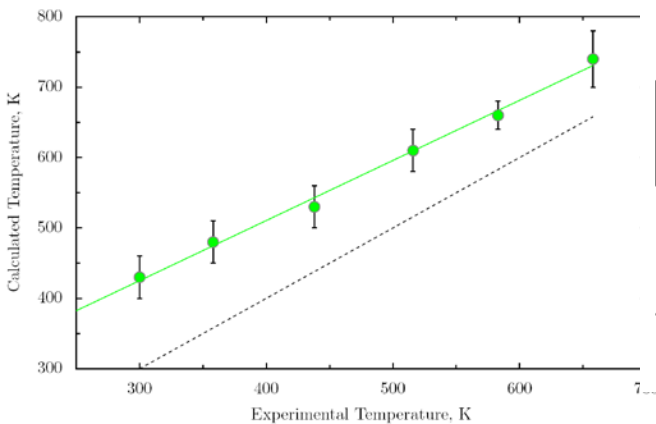
- The rotational temperature of a gas is closely linked to translational temperature.
- The rotational temperature equilibrates with the translational temperature within a few collisions – less than a nanosecond in atmospheric pressure air
- Second positive UV emission is used – prompt emission
- By measuring the distribution of rotational states, we extract the instantaneous temperature profile



Nitrogen Second Positive Spectral Variation with Temperature

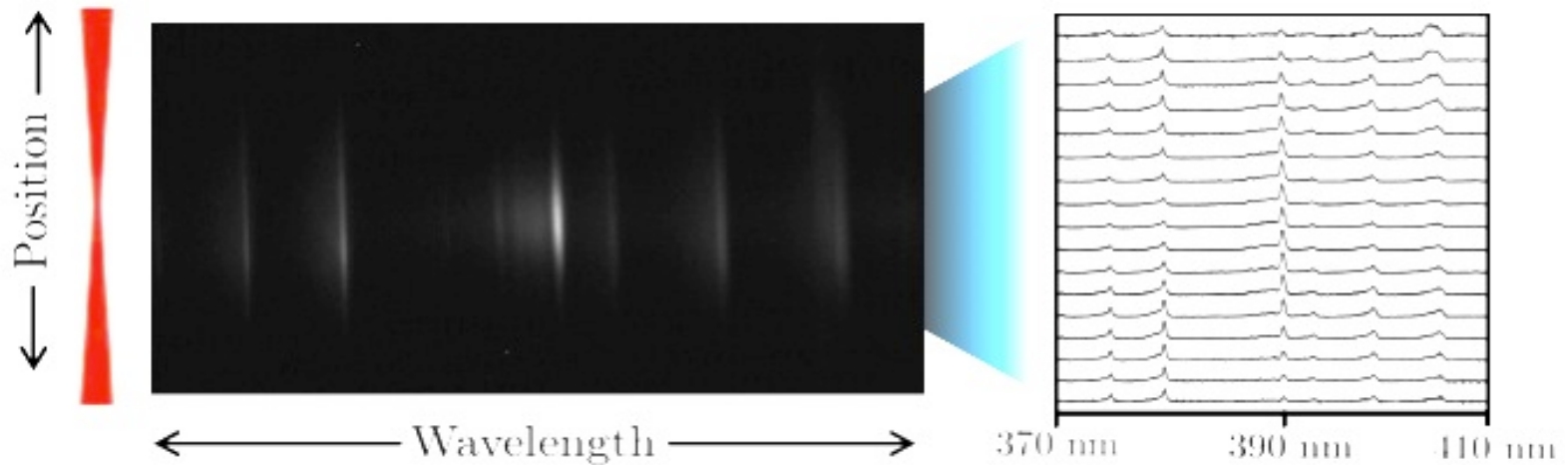


Temperature Measurement

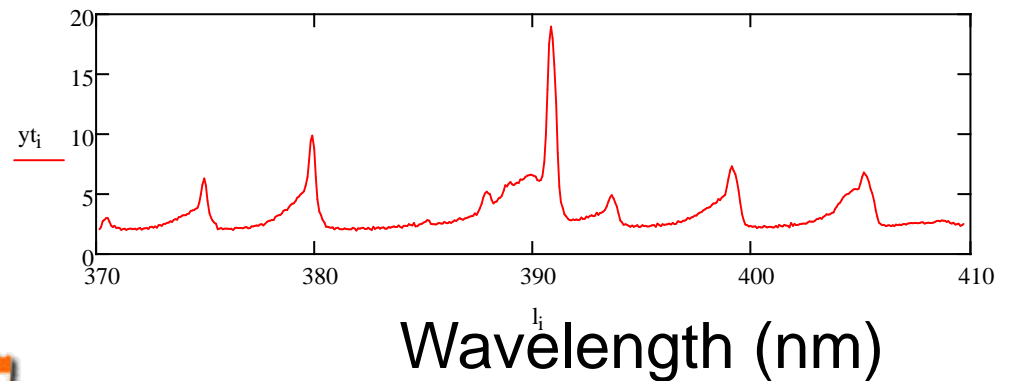


- Temperature profiles can be measured, since images capture displacement on one axis and spectrum on the other.
- Profile measurements based on ratio between systems show good agreement with thermocouple measurements.
- Temperatures calculated based on rotational spectra are slightly warmer than measured, perhaps due to laser heating of focal region.

FLEET: Hyperspectral imaging



Spectra over 4mm
of filament



Summary

- Control of atmospheric pressure flames with pulsed microwave energy
 - High efficiency coupling ($>50\%$)
 - Small percentage of flame power ($\sim 3\%$ to 10%)
 - Flame speed enhancement ($>20\%$)
 - Extension of lean limit (factor of two)
 - Distributed ignition
- Development of new diagnostics
 - Quantitative Temperature images with Filtered Rayleigh Scattering
 - Measurement of NO and radicals with Radar REMPI
 - Imaging velocity and temperature profiles with FLEET

Thank you!

Questions?

